

A Resolution

NO. _____

APPOINTING A REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE

WHEREAS every ten years following completion of the Constitutionally mandated United States Census, the City of Fort Worth analyzes its population and redraws the boundaries of the various single-member Council districts; and

WHEREAS the City Council determines criteria and procedures by which it redraws Council district boundaries after each decennial census, see, e.g. Resolution 3998-06-2011 (establishing redistricting criteria following 2010 Census, which included establishing relatively equal district sizes, avoiding retrogression, and working to avoid fragmenting geographically compact minority communities or packing minority voters in presence of polarized voting); and

WHEREAS in 2016, voters of the City of Fort Worth approved an amendment to the City Charter to increase the number of City Council persons to eleven (11) following the completion of the 2020 Census, further complicating the upcoming redistricting process; and

WHEREAS the Task Force on Race and Culture in December 2018 recommended the goal of ensuring that the City Council reflects the diverse communities that it serves; and

WHEREAS the City Council concurs with this recommendation and intends to act upon it by enlisting the input of a diverse redistricting task force to provide input and make recommendations to the City Council regarding criteria and procedures for the redistricting process following the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS the criteria and procedures by which the City Council redraws Council district boundaries after each decennial census can appreciably affect the composition of the City Council; and

WHEREAS the City Council desires to appoint a Redistricting Task Force comprised of eleven (11) citizens to advise the Council about redistricting criteria and procedures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS:

1. A Redistricting Task Force is hereby established, consisting of eleven (11) members as follows:

- Place 1: Lorraine Miller (Chair)
- Place 2: Salvador Espino
- Place 3: Graham Norris
- Place 4: Craig Allen
- Place 5: Bert Williams
- Place 6: Linda Kennedy
- Place 7: Tony DeVito
- Place 8: Tracy Scott
- Place 9: Kent Bradshaw
- Place 10: Bill Schur
- Place 11: Teresa Ayala

2. The Redistricting Task Force is charged with evaluating the criteria and procedures by which the City Council has redrawn Council district boundaries in the past and, accordingly, advising the City Council about redistricting criteria and procedures that the City Council should use in the future.

3. The Redistricting Task Force may adopt bylaws to govern the conduct of its meetings and hearings. All meetings of the Redistricting Task Force shall be open to the public and the City Manager or his designee shall post a notice of each meeting on the City's website.

4. The Redistricting Task Force shall meet during the months of September through November, 2020, to evaluate past and possible future redistricting criteria and procedures, reach preliminary findings, and prepare an interim report on these findings for presentation to the City Council no later than December 8, 2020.

5. The Redistricting Task Force shall hold multiple public hearings during the month of January, 2021, either physically or virtually accessible at various locations throughout the city to solicit community feedback on redistricting criteria and procedures.

6. The Redistricting Task Force shall, by majority vote of all of its members, make its final recommendations to the City Council by March 2, 2021, concerning the issues charged to the Task Force. The report may include the position of the minority and any accompanying explanations of the majority and minority positions.

7. The City Council may amend the charge of the Redistricting Task Force at any time.

8. The City Council, in consultation with the Redistricting Task Force, shall make the final determination concerning the criteria and procedures by which the City Council redraws Council district boundaries after each decennial census.

9. The Redistricting Task Force shall serve at the pleasure of the City Council, shall serve unless or until replaced by the City Council, and shall be subject to rules applicable to other City task forces. The Redistricting Task Force shall cease to exist upon the accomplishment of the purpose for which it was created unless earlier abolished by majority vote of the City Council

Adopted this 4th day of August, 2020.

ATTEST:

By: _____
Mary Kayser, City Secretary