



Guiding Principles for Public Participation and District Development

- The process for creating voting districts will be transparent and designed to inform and engage the public.
- All residents, including City Council members, are encouraged to provide input on the district formation.
- Input from non-residents with a vested interest in the City will also be considered at the request of the group of residents/businesses or community interest(s) they represent.
- Public input should focus on the formation of four voting districts which will be developed and approved in compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws, including all voting rights acts and districting provisions.
- All input should be presented and considered with respect for differing opinions.
- Near equal population (ideally within 5 percent) is one of the primary factors to create legally defensible council districts.
- Other factors contributing to the formation of districts will include: topography, geography, cohesiveness, contiguity, compactness, integrity of territory, communities of interest, and significant and sensitive land uses. Consideration of where existing council members reside is legally permissible.
- Minority communities should not be diluted in the formation of districts.
- Council Members for Districts 1 and 3 will be elected in April 2016; Council Members for Districts 2 and 4 will be elected in April 2018.
- Numbers will be assigned to the districts as part of the City Council approval process.