



LEGAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Office of the City Clerk

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To: Safety & Licensing Committee (Chris Croatt, Chairperson)
From: Kami Lynch, City Clerk
Date: May 6, 2022
Re: Redistricting updates required by Senate Bill 621

On April 15, 2022, the Wisconsin Supreme Court, in *Johnson v. Wisconsin Elections Commission*, adopted state legislative district maps drawn by the Wisconsin Legislature after the United States Supreme Court, in *Wisconsin Legislature, et al. v. Wisconsin Elections Commission, et al.* and *Glenn Grothman et al. v. Wisconsin Elections Commission et al.*, reversed the Wisconsin Supreme Court's decision regarding state legislative districts.

The legislative maps that were adopted on April 15th require the modification of the City's Ward plan adopted in October of 2021 to accommodate the revised Senate and Assembly district maps draw by the State. In reviewing the newly adopted Senate and Assembly district lines, splitting existing Wards to create new Wards is required. There are two map options with the new Wards attached for your consideration.

Option 1 – creates 8 new Wards to accommodate the legislative district lines. Aldermanic districts remain unchanged.

Option 2 – creates 6 new Wards to accommodate the legislative district lines. There is a revision in the boundaries of Aldermanic Districts 3 & 4 through a land swap. The sliver of Ward 8, East of Joseph Street, will move into Ward 10, District 4 to follow the Assembly district boundary. The square piece currently at the southern edge of Ward 10 (District 4) will move into Ward 8, District 3 to follow the Assembly district boundary. In total, the land swap adds 176 people to District 3, from District 4. This land swap does not significantly alter the total aldermanic plan deviation and conforms to the ideal population principles of redistricting.

The reason there are two options before you, is that one option simply makes the necessary adjustments to accommodate the legislative districts and the other seeks to remedy an area of irregularity along the dividing line between Assembly Districts 57 & 3, between Aldermanic Districts 3 & 4. This is the only area that can be adjusted as a result of Senate Bill 621, because it does not impede upon the alteration of any other districts such as the County Supervisory or School District boundaries. This option (Option 2) would allow for the composition of the Aldermanic Districts to be the same within the district with respect to legislative districts, permitting fewer ballot styles within the district.

If there are any questions on the map options or the process related to making the Ward adjustments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Kami Lynch, City Clerk