

# STAFF REPORT REGULAR MEETING

**AGENDA DATE:** November 1, 2022

**DEPARTMENT:** City Manager

**TITLE:**

Discussion of proposed redistricting maps and public input

**SUMMARY:**

Pursuant to the City's Professional Services Agreement with FAU, representatives from The John Scott Dailey Florida Institute of Government at Florida Atlantic University (the "Institute") presented the analysis of the City's existing election districts and discussed with the City Commission the details of such analysis, advising that redistricting was strongly recommended.

**BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION:**

Every ten years, after a census, updated population data often results in election districts with unequal populations, which requires the redrawing of districts to maintain compliance with the United States Constitution and the Voting Rights Act. The City of Lake Worth Beach has never done redistricting since its incorporation in 1913. Generally, redistricting redefines election districts based on changes in the population. The Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution guarantees the right of "one person, one vote" to municipal residents, such that a municipality must redraw its election districts periodically to maintain equal population.

The City Commission entered into an Agreement with FAU to analyze the City's 2020 Census data and population projections and the City's existing election districts. At the September 12, 2022 work session, James Gammack-Clark, Senior Instructor in the Geosciences Department at FAU, presented FAU's report on the population analysis, recommending that redistricting be undertaken due to the imbalance in the population of the four districts. The City Commission gave consensus to continue with the process by creating potential maps of the new districts for discussion. Four possible map options were presented at the October 6, 2022 commission meeting as well as at two public meetings, on October 13 and October 15.

The next step is for the Commission to vote on which map options to proceed with and how many other map options to be created for consideration. Those options will be presented at the November 15 Commission meeting.

**MOTION:**

Move to accept map option(s) xxx and proceed to a final map option presentation.  
Move to consider xxx other map options for the final map presentation.