

STAFF REPORT REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA DATE: October 6, 2022

DEPARTMENT: City Manager

TITLE:

Presentation by FAU of the disparity analysis and the four alternative redistricting maps for review and discussion

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") will present four alternative redistricting maps for review and discussion.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION:

Generally, redistricting redefines election districts based on changes in the population. The Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution has been found to guarantee the right of "one person, one vote" to municipal residents, such that a municipality must redraw its election districts periodically to maintain equal population. Every ten years, after a census, updated population data often times 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.

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. The four alternative maps will also be presented for public review and comment at two public meetings, the first on October 13 at 6 PM at the HATCH and the second on October 15 at 10 AM at South Grade Elementary School.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Potential redistricting maps
District Analysis
Deviation Summary
Reports on maps (will be available before the meeting)