

EXECUTIVE BRIEF WORK SESSION

AGENDA DATE: September 12, 2022

DEPARTMENT: City Manager

TITLE:

Presentation and discussion of Florida Atlantic University's (FAU) report on the analysis of the City's current election districts

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 the analysis of the City's existing election districts and discuss with the City Commission the details of such analysis, whether or not redistricting is recommended, and, if so, what next steps are required.

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.

At the March 8, 2022, the City's voters approved single-member district voting wherein each city commissioner (not including the mayor who is elected at-large) is elected by the electors of the district in which that commissioner resides instead of being elected by the electors of the city-at-large. Based on this change, the City Commission entered into an Agreement with FAU to, as an initial step, analyze the City's 2020 Census data and population projections and the City's existing election districts. At the workshop, an Institute representative(s) will present its report on the analysis to the Commission, and such analysis will be discussed. If redistricting is recommended, the Institute will lay out the next steps that are required for redistricting.