



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Board of Commissioners

VIA: Robin Gomez, City Manager

FROM: Clara VanBlargan, City Clerk

DATE: July 28, 2023

RE: **Ordinance 2023-25, Adjusting Election District Boundaries – 1st Reading & Public Hearing**

Background

The City of Madeira Beach electors approved a charter amendment at the March 2019 Municipal Election requiring the Board of Commissioners to every five years, by Ordinance, either change the existing boundaries of its districts as it may deem equitable or to reaffirm the old district boundaries so that each district contains as nearly as possible the same number of electors. This was last done through the passage of Ordinance 2018-08 on September 4, 2018. No change in the boundaries of districts shall be made within six (6) months preceding an election in the City. The next Municipal Election is scheduled for March 19, 2024. Therefore, there can be no change in the boundaries of the districts after September 18, 2023.

The Board of Commissioners workshopped this item on June 28, 2023 and July 26, 2023. The consensus was to adjust the Election District Boundaries. This item was prepared for that purpose.

City Charter, Section 3.2, Election District, (B) provides:

“Every five years the Board of Commissioners shall, by Ordinance either change the existing boundaries of said districts as it may deem equitable or to reaffirm the old district boundaries so that each district contain as nearly as possible the same number of electors; and similar Ordinances either changing or affirming the said district boundary lines for this purpose shall be passed every five years thereafter. If, prior to the passage of any Ordinance or Ordinances and applicable to district boundary lines and made mandatory by this section, if determined by the Board of Commissioners that there is an imbalance of electors exceeding fifteen (15) percent of the said district, or such imbalance that in their judgment and opinion, a new Ordinance changing the boundaries of said districts should be passed in order to equalize as nearly as possible the number of electors in each district, by Ordinance, change the boundaries of said district for such purposes. No change in districts shall be made within six (6) months preceding an election in the City.”

The Chart below shows the number of electors for each district in 2007, 2008, 2014, 2018, 2023, and in 2023 with the proposed change in district boundaries. The City Clerk’s office obtained the number of

current electors for 2023 as of the last election from the Pinellas County Supervisors of Elections. The Community Development Department recently prepared the updated district maps.

Fiscal Impact

The cost of advertising ordinances for public hearings are budgeted in each Fiscal Year Budget.

Recommendation

The recommendation is for the Board of Commissioners to approve, after first reading and public hearing, Ordinance 2023-25, Adjusting the Election District Boundaries.

If Ordinance 2023-25 is approved, it will be advertised for a second reading and public hearing on September 13, 2023.

Attachments

- **Ordinance 2023-25**
- **City Charter, Section 3.2, Election District**
- **Proposed Election District 1**
- **Proposed Election District 2**
- **Proposed Election District 3**
- **Proposed Election District 4**
- **Proposed Election District Map 1, 2, 3 & 4**
- **Current Election District Map 1, 2, 3, 4**

CITY OF MADEIRA BEACH VOTERS PER DISTRICT						
DISTRICT	3,246 VOTERS Ord. 1114 (8/14/2007)	3,294 VOTERS Ord. 1128 (6/10/2008)	3,602 VOTERS Ord. 2014-11 (10/14/2014)	3,275 VOTERS Ord. 2018-08 (09/04/2018)	3,153 VOTERS As of March 2023	3,153 VOTERS Change in District Boundaries July 26, 2023
1	841	841	903	807	757	787
2	638	798	850	761	766	787
3	926	814	861	792	758	792
4	841	841	988	915	872	790
Current – Before change in District Boundaries: District 4 – District with the highest number of voters (115 more voters than District 1, the lowest number of voters) · 15.2% higher than District 1 - (115 more voters) · 13.9% higher than District 2 - (106 more voters) · 15.05% higher than District 3 - (114 more voters)						