



MEMO TO CITY COUNCIL

Request to Include Topic on the City Council Agenda

From: Bill Nary, City Attorney **Meeting Date:** December 14, 2021
Presenter: Bill Nary **Estimated Time:** 20 minutes
Topic: Discussion—Draft Ordinance Concerning City Council Districts

Recommended Council Action:

Provide input to the City Attorney's Office relative to a draft ordinance concerning City Council districts.

Background:

Under Idaho Code section 50-707A, "[a]ny city having more than one hundred thousand (100,000) inhabitants based upon the most recent federal decennial census shall establish districts and shall elect councilmen by districts for districts so established." The most recent federal decennial census places the City of Meridian's population at 117,635. Thus, the City is required, under Idaho law, to establish City Council districts prior to the City's next general election, which is scheduled for November 7, 2023. Consequently, the City Attorney's Office has prepared a draft ordinance that contemplates the creation of the Meridian Districting Committee to assist the City create City Council districts.

If the City Council concurs with this approach, the Meridian Districting Committee would begin its work after Ada County creates new election precincts, which will likely occur in early 2022. It is anticipated that the Meridian Districting Committee would complete its work prior to the end of 2022—well before the City's next general election.

The purpose of this agenda item is to solicit input from the City Council early in the process. The ordinance will be presented to the City Council in early 2022 for formal consideration.