



TOWN OF DAVIE

District Boundaries Review Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2021

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee liaison Town Clerk Evelyn Roig called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Town Clerk Evelyn Roig: Is this on? I'm just waiting for the flag for the pledge.

Town Clerk Roig: This is my gavel. Okay.

Town Clerk Roig: Thank you, Moss. That's perfect. We would like to start the meeting at this moment. Would everybody please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

2. ROLL CALL

Town Clerk Roig: I will take a quick roll call. Hal Axler.

Mr. Hal Axler: Here.

Town Clerk Roig: William Bamford.

Mr. William Bamford: Present.

Town Clerk Roig: Mary Barba. Ken DeArmas.

Mr. Ken DeArmas: Here.

Town Clerk Roig: Donna Evans.

Ms. Donna Evans: Here.

Town Clerk Roig: Virginia French.

Ms. Virginia French: Here.

Town Clerk Roig: Howard Rechtmann. Henderson Roberts.

Mr. Henderson Roberts: Here.

Town Clerk Roig: Richard Tarrant.

Mr. Richard Tarrant: Here.

Town Clerk Roig: Lauren Villegas.

Ms. Lauren Villegas: Here.

Mr. Howard Rechtmann arrived at 6:40 P.M.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Town Clerk Roig: We have a quorum. My name is Evelyn Roig, I am the Town Clerk, and I will be your committee liaison. I met some of you at the ethics training that you had a couple of weeks ago. I want to make some brief introductions and then will go through a few housekeeping points before I turn the meeting over to our Town Administrator. Joining us this evening, we have Mayor Judy Paul who's joining us in the audience.

[applause]

Town Clerk Roig: We have Vice Mayor Caryl Hattan representing District 2.

[applause]

Town Clerk Roig: We have Councilwoman Susan Starkey, District 3.



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[applause]

Town Clerk Roig: We have Town Administrator, Mr. Richard Lemack.

[applause]

Town Clerk Roig: We have our Deputy Town Administrator, Macciano Lewis standing in the back of the room.

[applause]

Town Clerk Roig: We have Assistant Town Administrator, Phillip Holste.

[applause]

Town Clerk Roig: We have our Assistant Town Clerk, Gillian Brewster, who many of you have already met.

[applause]

Town Clerk Roig: We have our Town Attorney, Allan Weinthal.

[applause]

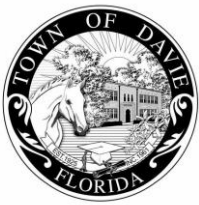
Town Clerk Roig: We have our Intergovernmental Affairs Manager, Leona Henry, part of our staff. We have our consultants who will be guiding you through this entire process. That is Scott Burton-Rodriguez and Taylor Burton.

[applause]

Town Clerk Roig: Just a few housekeeping notes that I wanted to go over. We gave you some binders, in the binders there are dividers included. To help you stay organized, those dividers have the meeting dates. That way you can put any handouts that we give you during these meetings, you can put them as part of those-- include them in those binders behind the respective meetings. Also, we gave you a notepad, that note pad is for taking notes and I will defer to the notetaking as far as public records law to our Town Attorney very quick.

Town Attorney Weinthal: I don't want to discourage anyone from taking notes. But as you recall from my ethics and public records training, it's the mode that the media. I'm sorry, is the content of the message. My recommendation is keeping your notes, obviously, for yourself because you want to review it by the end of these next three meetings, and once it's done, just put in the binder, we'll collect the binder, then we'll go through it to see if it's a public record or not. We'll do all the work for you. All you have to do is just put in your binder at the end of every meeting and give it to us at the end. Any questions? All right.

Town Clerk Roig: For each meeting, you will receive an agenda that we will email you with any backup after each meeting. We urge you to please check your emails if you have difficulty receiving emails, please contact us, contact me, or contact Gillian. We will help you with anything to ensure that you get your agenda in a timely manner, and that you have enough time to review the documents.



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It is very important that you look, and you check your emails or that you communicate with us if you are not receiving documents, or for some reason, you have an emergency and you cannot make it to a meeting. I emphasize this because there is a strict timeline. We only have three meetings, so your attendance is vital during this process.

Anything that we hand out, is what is emailed to you. We will also bring a hard copy the day of the meeting so that in the event that you forget your agendas, we will have hard copies with us as well. Anything that our consultant provides as far as maps, we will have a website link for the public to view the next day. Everything that you receive, the public will also view via this link the same day if it part of the agenda or next day if distributed at the meeting. Having said that, our next meeting is next Monday the 18th at 6:30 PM. Same time, same location, and I would like at this moment to welcome our Town Administrator, Mr. Richard Lemack.

[applause]

Town Administrator Richard Lemack: Hello, I did not get to say hello to you earlier, Hi. Good evening, everybody. Again, just for the record, Richard Lemack, Town Administrator. I first wanted to welcome each of you and thank you for taking time to volunteer for the District Boundary Review Committee.

Taken on this vitally important civic duty, will assist in ensuring that our community has wide representation in the Town of Davie. You are essentially representing your respective districts in a non-elected way and are a voice of Davie residents who may not have the time to attend these public meetings. Our goal with the assistance of Mr. Burton-Rodriguez, his guidance is to ensure that we have a transparent redistricting process.

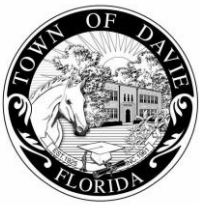
Tonight, we're going to introduce you through Mr. Burton-Rodriguez, the redistricting criteria and you're going to see that the Town's population growth over the last 10 years has increased about 14.9%. A majority of that increase has been in District 1. I wanted to point out before I turn the meeting over to Mr. Burton-Rodriguez, that the increase is not a surprise to us. It was identified many years ago as one of the only certain areas that the Town could grow in for certain factors, and those factors included the educational campus, industrial and commercial development, and proximity to 595, the turnpike seaport, and the airport.

When that was done, creating these unique zoning districts, these areas provided and helped greatly to ensure and even grow the Town's precious commodity of open space, recreation facilities, and our trails. It was a planned effort and we're here to deal with this 10 years later. With that, Mr. Burton-Rodriguez, I'm going to turn the meeting over to you and thank you all very much.

[applause]

Mr. Scott Burton-Rodriguez: Good evening. I'm just going to move this here. Good evening, here we are again, been had the fortune. One more.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Okay. One more round?



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Town Attorney Weinthal: Yes, just one more. First, you need to do a Chair and a vice-Chair before. One second.

4. SELECTION OF CHAIR

Town Clerk Roig: A very important process that we need to do. What we need to do is select a Chair and Vice-Chair which every committee and board has. How that works is that an individual can make a nomination, nominate another individual in this group. One makes a nomination, and then another individual seconds that nomination. One makes a motion to nominate an individual the other individual seconds. At this time, would someone like to make a motion to nominate the selection of the Chair of the committee?

Mr. Hal Axler: I will nominate Donna Evans.

Mr. William Bamford: I'll second the motion.

Town Clerk Roig: How this works is I will say all those in favor say, "Aye." Anyone that votes in favor say aye and those who opposed say "Nay". All those in favor say, "Aye".

Everyone: Aye.

Town Clerk Roig: Any oppose? That motion passes. The Chair will be Donna Evans. Now a selection of a Vice-Chair. Do we have a nomination for a Vice-Chair? Motion to nominate a Vice-Chair.

Motion: Hal Axler made a motion, seconded by William Bamford to nominate Donna Evans as the Chair. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion carried 10-0)

5. SELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Mr. William Bamford: I will nominate Richard Tarrant as Vice-Chair.

Town Clerk Roig: We have a motion to nominate Mr. Richard Tarrant. Does anyone second the motion?

Ms. Mary Barba: I'll second the motion.

Town Clerk Roig: Okay. All those in favor say, "Aye".

Everyone: Aye.

Town Clerk Roig: Any opposed? All right, motion passes. The Vice-Chair is Mr. Richard Tarrant. We can continue business. Scott.

Motion: William Bamford made a motion, seconded by Mary Barba to nominate Richard Tarrant

as the Vice-Chair. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion carried 10-0)



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6. PRESENTATIONS

- 6.1 Understanding District Boundary Review Overview
- 6.2 Understanding Redistricting Overview
- 6.3 Criteria & Methodology
 - 6.3.1 PL 94-171 Compilation
 - 6.3.2 Integration
- 6.4 Data Analysis & Findings
 - 6.4.1 Population Change
 - 6.4.2 Population Change Existing Districts
- 6.5 Next Steps

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: We're back. That's a very important part, so I'm glad we got that. I was going back to my story about 1984. It's funny because Donna, you've been on the committee before, haven't you?

Chair Donna Evans: Yes.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Yes. Mayor, I remember when you go to Town Council. I'm just showing my age here. It's almost 24 years. I'm also sharing this special moment because I'm going to be probably a grandfather in January because my daughter here, she's going to be taking the reins. This is her first experience. If you're big *Star Wars* fans, we call it the Padawan. She's my Padawan and she's learning the process. She'll be a Jedi in no time at all. I'm really pleased. I'm probably embarrassing her right now, I'm sorry.

I'm very happy to have her part of the team. It's been great. She's already helped me on a couple of things preparing for this as well. I just want to give you a little background about ourselves. I'm Scott Burton-Rodriguez, and Taylor Burton Garcia. We are your Town consultants for this process. We are not just an outside consultant; we are your consultants and we're here to help you with the process as well.

The next thing I just want to share with you is just a little bit of our experience. As I mentioned to you, I've been doing redistricting for quite some time for the Town of Davie. We've done redistricting for Deerfield Beach, Southwest Ranches. There's another process in play that something that's very important that will come your way. When you look at these census blocks, these census blocks are going to be the building blocks for your redistricting.

You're going to see some of the blocks, they need to be re-adjusted. There's an opportunity down probably in 2025, where you can actually make modification recommendations for census blocks. You'll find some census blocks or what we call an island unto itself, and you have little census blocks inside. What that means is that, if you're trying to look at an area and you want to include it, you have to include the other area too.

It frustrated City of Deerfield Beach in Parkland. They actually made changes, and we were involved with that. They made new census blocks. There have been some Census blocks adjustments since 2010, as well, and I'll all be sharing that a little bit later. First, I'm going to let Taylor give you the introduction to what redistricting is and a District Boundary Review.



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Ms. Taylor Burton Garcia: Good evening. Again, for the record, my name is Taylor Burton Garcia. We want to go ahead and show you guys what is redistricting. Today, I'm going to provide you guys with a general overview of the District Boundary Review process in the introduction to redistricting, and help you understand the value of the Public Law 94-171, the census data files, and then Scott will be then sharing the methodology and the findings.

What is redistricting? The District Boundary Review. More importantly, what triggers it. In accordance with the Section 782 of the Town of Davie Charter, the Town's municipal boundaries must be reviewed upon the occurrence of any of the following events. The Town's geographical boundaries changed by 10% or more.

The Town's population changes by 10% or more. A single annexation causes the population of the Town of Davie to increase by 5% or more, or the passage of at least 10 years since the previous review of the Town's boundaries. To recap, the District Boundary Review criteria per Town Charter, as Richard mentioned, for the Town of Davie, the reason for this District Boundary Review is the Town's geographical boundaries changed by over 10%.

Redistricting. What is redistricting? It's the redrawing of the electoral district boundaries every 10 years to account for population shifts and growth during the previous decade. Every 10 years the census and redistricting, they go hand in hand from Article 1, Section 2 of the Constitution, that directs that that census enumeration by is taken. Every 10 years, since the first census in 1790, they conduct it to determine the number of people living in the United States.

The purpose of this is for reimportation. The data collected by the census are used to determine the number of seats each state has in the US House of Representatives. In 1790, there was-- the population 3,929,625 people pointed a hundred and five seats, fifteen states at the time. Looking now into 2020, we have 331,449,281 people, 435 seats, fifty states.

What data is used to assess the population equality? That would be the US Census Bureau Public Law 94-171 as previous spoken. The population counts for redistricting. It is a law that directs the Census Bureau to make special preparations provide redistricting data needed by the 50 states. It is derived from the 2020 US census population counts and validated as a source for federal, state, and local redistricting efforts. This is why there were so many signs you saw on the side of the road, "Do your census2, and everything, for our citizens to do it. It's really important that a lot of people participate in that.

What are the PL 94-171 data files? The Public Law, PL 94-171 enacted in 1975 directs at the Census Bureau to make special preparations as stated in the data derived from the 2020 census. The population data is summarized at the census block level, which is the smallest geographical area that captures population counts. Now that we know the source of the data used to assess the population equality for each district, the next question would be is, how do you access it?

This is where Empire Consultants will come in and by assisting you guys to acquire and compile the data for the purpose of the District Review Boundary. Scott will now focus on the



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methodology on how we have brought the data together to perform the population equality analysts.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: I get the fun stuff, right? Get your pillows out. Don't fall asleep on me. I'm just kidding. I know this could be a little dry, but I'm going to try to make it as entertaining as I can. Now that we share the District Boundary Review criteria based on the Town Charter, the redistricting process has a set of criteria that we must adhere to. These are the five guiding principles, and that is your federal state local laws, your population equality, your communities of interest, which I'm going to define a little bit later, compactness, and contiguous. These are the guide for our whole redistricting process.

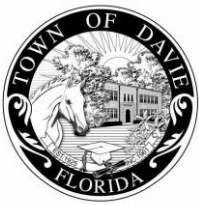
Empire consultants, our focus is going to be primarily on population equality, the mathematical aspects of it, compactness, contiguity. But your role is very important. As the Town Administrator mentioned, your civic duty here is of a vital importance because you are the best representatives for your communities of interest.

I'm going to be relying dependent on you when I show scenarios and plans for you to look at it and see how they impact your communities of interest, which in this case, will most likely be your neighborhood associations. Most of the local municipalities that we do redistricting for is relatively their neighborhood associations. Thanks to the Town of Davie and their GIS people, they have a map layer that has all the neighborhoods in it that we're going to share with you as well.

The first criteria we need to look at is population. Let's take a look at this. As Taylor shared, now that we know the data source we required, now I got to share the process that that was undertaken. The first phase is the data acquisition and data compile. I have to collect the data, all the information that comes from the Public Law 94-171. Then I have to join-- there's going to be four files. There's going to be the population files, the population and housing characteristics, and then the file that's associated with the census blocks themselves. Then I take the US Census TIGER file which it has a census is a map that has all the individual Census Blocks and I'll show you a little bit more about that later. Then when we join that together. After that is phase two. This is where I integrate your Public Law 94171 with US census tiger files, which will give us the data needed to do the redistricting.

That has already been accomplished and then at the next stage is the data analysis. I'm going to share with you today the maps right after this presentation on the findings because this will allow us to look at the district boundary review, which is simply asking the question. Based on your talent charter, has the population increased by 10% or more? And tell the administrator, "You stole my thunder." He already got it. He's 14.9%. That triggers it. That's right there. There was no single annexation that caused it, no geographic boundary changes.

You actually reviewed this in 2017 as well, so that criteria doesn't make it. The criteria that made it, that triggered this while you're all here today is the fact that the population has grown by 14.9%, which is something to be proud of. This is the process and then once we've done that, I'm going to show you the existing districts and the population in each of those districts. Now, the goal is to keep the population as equal as possible, and we're going to discuss that as



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well. The first step is just compiling the data. I'm just going to give an overview of the level of work and effort put together to get that together.

By the way, if you've got the tools you can go to this site, you can actually download all the data you want. It's a little tricky. It's pretty complicated, actually. I look at the whole process overall, but you can actually collect all the files and that's what we did here. The U.S. Census has done a great job at providing educational information, very transparent on how the process works in terms of compiling the data. This is the data that's going to be serving to draw boundaries and look at your population equality. It's basically-- what you're seeing in this little video clip is basically taking all those tables and bring them together, which gives us the population characteristics. It also includes housing characteristics as well.

Usually, I only had just the population and ethnic composition. I'm now going to have other data. These are the tables that's represented here. The data was collected and then brought into forty analyses by joining it to the Census Blocks. Let me just go ahead into the next slide. Now, that I have compiled the data, the data's now been compiled, I can now go to the next step. Next step is the join the Public Law 94-171 and U.S. Tiger files to get the Census Blocks that we need to do the boundary changes. Now I'm going to go ahead and show you that process that was undertaken. Can I take this off here?

Here are the Census tracks for Broward County on the maps that you see here. That captures population data, but it's large geographic areas and these census tracks cross municipal boundaries. You really can't use that for redistricting purposes. The U.S. Census has another layer called the Census Block Group, which basically is smaller, smaller than census tracks as you can see here, but again the Census Block Group cross Town municipality boundaries. We need the smallest geographic area that captures population count. Years ago, it used to be the Trafficking Analysis Zones, TAZs back in the early 'nineties, when the county was doing a pretty good job on population estimates.

We used to use that for just estimates, but now we're using the official population counts, broke it down at this level called the Census Block. That's what this looks like right here on the screen. There's a lot of Census Blocks and we break it down and now we look zoom into Davie. What we had to do is-- next step was just to get only the Census Blocks that are contained within your boundaries. It gets a little tricky in certain areas like down here to get it, but we got all the Census Blocks that represent your municipal boundaries. That's what that looks like here. I got the building block for the Census Blocks.

Now, I got to integrate these Census Blocks with the Public Law 94-171, and this is how it works. Here's a good example. Here's a Census Block. I selected it, and by the way, you notice the configuration as I've mentioned this earlier seat hall the odd shapes are. This is an island Census Block I was telling you about. In the future, you might want to make some adjustments to your blocks. I would recommend it, but here you see one Census Block. What I got to do is this is the GIS table. It has a Census Blocks, the map layer table, and then what I'm going to do is I'm going to join that to the Public Law 94-171 based on a unique identifier.

Everyone has a social security number that identifies you. It should be unique. Well, Census Blocks has the same thing, they have unique Census Block numbers. Now, I will share



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something, and then I really appreciate the attorney who caught this. I could not compare block by block 2010 to 2020 because they changed the numbers. I thought, "That's so scary, number are supposed to be--" because they changed the configuration of the Census Blocks, but that's okay because while we're really interested in looking at as a whole, has the population changed in the Town of Davie?

That was a non-factor, but I want to bring that to your attention, that the Census Blocks have changed since 2020. They have, according to the Census Bureau, they've improved them, but the good news is that I can join. I joined the 2020 Census Blocks with the Public Law 94171 for 2020, and then I can get the population council. Now I got the population data captured and this is going to be my building blocks for drawing district boundaries. Before we even go there let's see what's going on with the existing districts today. This is what the final phase is. Now that I've got the data, I can now do this district boundary review which focuses on population equality in each district.

Then if we need to, which we will probably will, we'll create some redistricting plans for you to look at. Let's look at the population change. This is the comparison between 2010 and 2020. I want to show a little video here of how that process works. Here's your districts for the four, and what I'm showing here's is taking the 2010. you can see in 2010 where the growth was. The red represents the most significant amount of growth, and then orange, then yellow, then green. Just what I have to do here is I got to summarize that because I have to say, "Well, how many people in 2010 were in Davie?" In this case, I got like 91,000, I'll come up 90,086. You'll see it in a minute. I did the same thing with the 2020 data. I'm just showing you again where growth occurred in 2020.

District one has a lot more people in it. District four not as many. You're going to see that in a few minutes as well. Once I get the data I summarize the total population, which is 105,695 for 2020. Doing the math, I have my formula and it's 14.9% increase. That's what triggers this process. then I broke it down by individual district, you'll see that in a few minutes, I'm going to show you a map that provides that information. The next step. Again, we're just Town charter and item B is what triggered this process. Are there any questions at this part? Any questions? Your Town charter, that's what activated this process. Now let's go look at the laws on here.

The Federal State and local laws. Population equality is where all districts you're trying to achieve equal population. This is where I can confer with attorney is on this, but in the past, the Supreme Court has recognized a 10% total deviation, but that's been challenged, and best practice is they try to keep each of the districts to deviate no more than 5%. Let me break that down to you. You have 100,000 people in a district. That's the ideal population. Can you divide it by four? I'm sorry. You have a total population of 100,000 divided by four districts gives you 25,000. You don't want a district to go more than 30,000 or more, or you don't want the district to go less than 20,000 because it exceeds that. That's what we're trying to achieve. You'll hear me say the word ideal population. That's simply taking the total population and divided by the four districts, and that would be the ideal population, but we know that you can't get every district to be with that same number, but so we try to give a range on this. What we look at is what we call the mean. That's what I did describe, "The population of each district



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shall be determined by dividing the total population by the number of election districts." In this case, that's the number we have, have to work with.

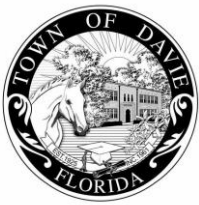
The ideal population is 26,424, we don't want to be higher than 5% or any less than 5% of that particular deviation. That's why they say, "Equal as possible", is the word that they use because they know they can't get every district to be exactly 26,424. Here's some more math, so what I'm all talking about is the individual district deviation. That's the percent of deviation from the mean represents the population and proposed district subtracted from the mean. Basically, you're taking the ideal population subtracted by the-- I'm sorry, the individual district population minus the ideal district population divided by the ideal district population. What does that look like? This is better to show it visually.

Let's break it down for you. In district one, there's 29,266, so according to Public Law in 94171, the population count when you summarize all those Census Blocks is 29,266. In district two 26,947. District three 25,280. District four 24,202. That gives us the total population of 105,695. The ideal population we're trying to achieve, you divide that by four 26,424. Let's look at the difference. Now what I'm doing is I'm subtracting the 20 district one's population by the ideal population. I'm taking 29,266 subtracted by 26,424 divided by 26,424, gives me 10.8%. Again, we're trying to be even 5%. Right there tells us district one, we're going to have to take away to get the population for the ideal population.

District two has 2%, district three has -4.3%. These two districts are good, they're an acceptable range, but here's the problem, and we all know the problem. District one, you have to take away subtract. That means you're going to have to add something to the adjacent district, which would be district two. That means you're going to be taking away from district one, adding to district two, and then again, same principles would apply for district three as well and district four. District four had a deviation of a -8.4%. That's our challenge, that's actually everyone's challenge here looking at this.

Now, there's another thing that's called the absolute deviation, which gives you the deviation overall. We're going to talk about that, but I just say in overall you have a deviation number of 6,701, and then that's just summarizing the difference column there. I'll explain that in a few minutes, but just talking about the single-member-- I'm sorry, the individual district deviations. In 2010, when we did the map for back then, that was a different map, by the way, I just want to make sure that in 2010 there was a different map, but that's the numbers we achieved. We got under the 5%, so you can do it. I've got confidence here. We can do this together.

We're going to look at that and explore how we can lower district one in an increased district four and get some balance in your population equality. Okay. This brings us to the overall deviation. This is what I mentioned earlier. This is where it's better just to show you the visual on this, but it's basically the calculation is completed for each individual district in a scenario. This measures the average difference across all the districts. The way this works is we've already covered this. We know the total population; we know what district population we're trying to achieve. We know the differences and we know the percentage deviation where that number we're trying to get to plus or minus 5%.



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The absolute difference, when you take that, you summarize that number, that gives you that 6,731. Then what you have to do is divide that by four, because you want the absolute mean difference of 1,683, you need to divide that by the ideal mean district population, and this will get you 6.4%. Again, we're trying to get to 5%. The bottom line is we're trying to get to 5% on the overall deviation. The reason why that's high is because district one and district four have these deviations that we have to address. The results, this is the map that we're looking at and this is what we're going to be doing, and then at this time, if you want, have you distributed the maps? We can distribute the maps now. That would be great. Then I can take some questions.

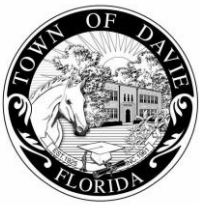
Mr. Hal Axler: Got a question. We're on Davie Road, where there's a lot of brand-new construction, you have to imagine the vacancy rate is pretty low right now. Does that get taken cap to the map at all?

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: No. It's a good point. What we use for the baseline data is the U.S. Census Public Law in 94-171. We don't want to taint that. I know what you're saying, "Things have changed since the release of this data in February", but when you start doing that, it becomes more subjective in the data. You want to defend by using the best available data source. I get that, that's a good question. For this, since you're using-- it's every 10 years, you're using population official redistricting data, you want to stick with redistricting data.

Are there any other questions regarding the methodology? Okay. We move on to the next slide here. Okay, the next one we talk about is compactness. This is a quote from the Florida Division of Elections. "Districts may not be drawn to favor or disfavor an incumbent or political party. Districts shall not be drawn to deny racial or lay language minorities, the equal opportunity to participate in the political process and elect representatives of their choice. The districts must be contiguous. Unless otherwise required, districts must be compact." Equals the population is feasible. That feasible is that deviation I was talking about plus the minus 5% and where feasible, it must be make use of existing city counting geographic boundaries.

I want to just talk to you a little bit about this next slide on compactness. We do measure that, there's a geographic formula so we can measure how compact the districts are. I know back in - I think it was around 2012, there was a big movement on the fair elections about compactness. That I got on the radar with the supervisor of elections as well, so we do measure compactness. This is the thing to counter that ugly word called gerrymandering. We have to measure that and take that into account.

Then continuity. The reason why I bring this up is because you've got a certain area in the Southern part of Davie, that when I say connectivity, if there's a point that touches another point, it may go to a different district- wait a minute, that's not contiguous if it's touching that boundary, it could be deemed as contiguous. There is a thing we call point contiguous. We look at that as well, in terms of contiguity. That part I was sharing with you is this area here, like if that came, if that'd be turned blue for some reason, would that be acceptable? Yes, because that blue, this area here is in a touching point on that boundary, because there are some cities, believe it or not, that have like island sections.



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When it comes to contiguity, we try to keep them adjacent, and you can't get too crazy with it because then you're going to be dealing with compactness issues. That's another factor, but the most one of the most important factors for you guys that I need your help on it really is about the communities of interest. You know your community's the best, so I'm a map guy, I'm a demographer, I'm a statistician, that's my expertise. That's logic, that's all I live and breathe on this stuff. It's the community of interest where I want to need your input and help and assistance. Sometimes when I'm drawing these boundaries, I may inadvertently split a neighborhood association. If you see something of concern, one of the things I want to do is when I start submitting the plans, I'm going to have the neighborhoods, it's going to be like a spreadsheet. The neighborhoods and what districts they're in right now and then in plan one, what changed. That way it will help you when you're looking at the boundaries, you can compare what communities are in each district based upon existing plan one, plan two, or plan three.

These are our guiding principles for the process and that really concludes my presentation. At this time, I'll take any questions and if not, I'll hand the mic back to you. I'll talk a little bit about the process next but are there any questions regarding the methodology? You've got the maps; we give you some time to look at it. My challenge is as soon as I get out of here, I'm going back to the computer and working on your scenario plans because I need to get something submitted to you because you've got a meeting next week.

I need to get it before that because essentially, I want to get it to you guys by Friday. I've already got one scenario done, I'll be working on some others and then you'll have them. I think what we're hoping to do in the next meeting we did in the past where we just-- Whoever's your Chair will go plan by plan to dissect them and provide me with input or what-if scenarios or recommendations as well. Thank you for your time. I want to put this back.

Town Clerk Roig: I am turning the meeting over to the Chair so she can take over and preside over the meeting.

Chair Donna Evans: Thank you. Mr. Rodriguez, where do we begin?

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Exhibit A. That is the map that we're looking at right now is Exhibit A. You'll see the colors for the districts. I tried to put some roadway so you guys have some navigation, so you can see where it's at, but the number is the number. What we're looking at is, if you look at district one, whoever is representing district one and district two, the question that I got for you is what area do you want me to look at subtracting? Do you want something in north or southeast? That would be very helpful to know what, Chair if I know if there's any input.

Chair Donna Evans: Do we have population counts for certain areas? Like, for instance, in district one, if we decided New River Cove, that's way off to the right, how many people live there? If we would take that section and move it. I'm not saying [crosstalk]

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: No, it's a great-

Ms. Taylor Burton Garcia: I'm just saying-



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Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: I need to defer to the Town for a second. One of the maps that we can provide in live mapping is the census blocks with the population data. I can publish that so that way it'll be available for you. When you're looking at the blocks, you can look at the blocks and see what the populations are. Just know that ideally, it'd be so great if the Census blocks were aligned with the neighborhood associations, they're not. That's the big problem. It's an estimate but I agree with you, that would help when looking at what areas.

Chair Donna Evans: Because then wouldn't it be feasible, let's say, a few of those developments on the eastern side or the western side of district one, if they bumped over into district two, you know what I'm saying?

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Yes.

Chair Donna Evans: If we knew what the population was in those, certain developments that might make life easier. Does anybody have anything they'd like to add to that? Yes, Mary Barba.

Ms. Mary Barba: Just looking at the numbers in the data, it looks like it's an east to west shift and I was in-- Oh, excuse. I'm sorry.

Town Clerk Roig: If I may, if you speak, please, turn on your mic and speak into the mic so it's being recorded.

Ms. Mary Barba: As I said, it's an east to west shift of numbers and I had the same question. If there's really not a lot that we could do in a sound manner if we don't have numbers to share with you to say, let's look at the northern part of district one, the western part of district one, it does no good if we're going to just shoot in the dark. I think we do need to know the populations in order to ask for the shift because once we move one, then we got to move two into three and three into four so we can get that 5% deviation balance.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Mary, that's the reason why we're hired because we're the ones doing that for you and present those data to you. I understand that it would be helpful even though we're assigned to do it because that's exactly what I'm doing. I'm looking at areas and then I can calculate that with the tools that I have but if you want to look at it, what we'll do is we'll provide the census blocks population on a live map so you can look at it. It'll be able to overlay your neighborhood associations with that, that's easy to do so that you can look at it.

Next week when I provide you plans-- I'm going to provide you plans then we can start looking into it and dissecting them. I am going to be giving you plans but keep in mind that if you got some areas that you know of just for the next meeting, that's for the purpose of the next meeting, bring them to the table. Hopefully, you'll have the maps by Friday. I know, it doesn't give you time, there goes your weekend. Do look at those numbers and then that way, when we come in here on Monday, we'll have a very to-the-point meeting as opposed to waiting for the numbers. I understand.

Mr. Howard Rechtman: I have a question through the Chair.

Chair Donna Evans: Yes.



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Mr. Howard Rechtmann: Is your system interactive enough? If you go to Exhibit B which has the district boundaries, can you move a boundary, and at the same time you move the boundary, will the population shift as you move the boundary line?

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: The tools that I have, that's what I can do, that's what I'm doing. When I make and adjust a what-if scenario, if I select this area, assign it to a district, then it's going to show me the population counts. Yes.

Mr. Howard Rechtmann: The other question I had is the boundaries are vertical and they have to remain vertical, I assume?

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: No. Actually, someone did submit a while back a horizontal plan. The way I usually do the plan, my approach is conservative, I do a slight modification just to get to a population equality adjustment, but we had a request to look into going horizontal.

Mr. Howard Rechtmann: I'm not saying that's good [crosstalk]

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: I know. It's been done before, yes.

Mr. Howard Rechtmann: As the Chair was saying, as we shift boundaries, it's going to be a domino effect obviously because this is all interrelated. You have some districts that are showing, I believe, they're below, they're negative. Those districts can absorb, and the other districts are too full. As you play with this, you might find out you are going to have to do some boundary changes that you don't want to do or you're going to have homeowner's association split in half which you don't want to do either.

It depends on what the results are from the plans that are presented which way we're going to go. Are we going to stay vertical? We might have to think about something else.

Mr. Ken DeArmas: Chair if I may?

Chair Donna Evans: Yes, Mr. DeArmas.

Mr. Ken DeArmas: Based on Mary's comment before, you're going to provide us with-- You're saying that it's too hard for you to provide us with the population per area or per district that we have, say, per quadrant or per zone. It'd be almost impossible for us to try to just guess what it's going to be like without having the population to know we could take this area and shift it to there and then from that number, we could take it and shift it to here. Then from there we take that number and shift it to there. I know you said originally you do the calculations for us, but that doesn't really help us because we're shooting in the dark and counting on you because between all of us here, we could all say, "Well, one says, this one, one says, this one says, this one." You come up with that one, and it's not continuous with everything that we come up with, and then we're right back to square one again. Are you saying that you do not have the specific populations per each one?

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: I have the population data broken down by Census blocks, not by neighborhood associations. The best I can do is provide you with an electronic map that shows all the individual Census blocks with the total population and then overlay. Then you could



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turn on a neighborhood layer. Now, I want to warn you, though, the Census blocks do not align to neighborhood associations, so it's going to be the best guesstimate. That's okay. In fact, in the past, the way we used to do it, it would be like, "Hey, neighborhood A, B, and C, Scott, can you--"

They would send information over to Evelyn, the Town clerk. She'd contact me and say, "Hey, can you do this scenario if you sign this, this and this and this." Then what are we looking at? Then that information I can share back at the next meeting. If you want to be more interactive with it, we can provide census blocks with the population, and then that way, you can look at it on your own. You'll have access to the data, or you can look at the population data and say, "Okay, I'm thinking about if we had this, this, this, and this."

These census blocks to district two, for example, you'll see the numbers, you'll see the numbers of the increase, and then you just subtract it from district one and add it to district two.

Mr. Ken DeArmas: I understand what you're saying. My concern is and being on many other boards before knowing how-- we have 10 people on this particular board, so we're going to have a major differential in opinions and in what we're looking to do here. What I'm saying is we have two more meetings, so if you come back the next meeting that literally gives us that meeting, plus one more meeting for all of us to try to get-- I think we need a minimum of six people to have a quorum to give you our recommendation as to how that goes.

Town Clerk Roig: I think what he is looking for and correct me if I'm wrong, is there a way to do this live at the meeting interactively. This way they are giving you their input happen as changes are happening live. Such as how about if we move this to the west or to the north? Can that happen live-

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Yes, we can do that.

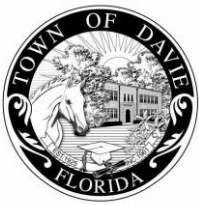
Town Clerk Roig: without going back? Is there a way that we can do that, where they can see it on the screen and make those changes as they're having that discussion with you?

Mr. Ken DeArmas: Correct because we have the two meetings. At that meeting, we do that change, and the second meeting come back, we make that final change, and everybody is agreed upon it, we're good to go. If we are not, we're shooting in the dark, we'll come back, we're never going to finish this in two meetings.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Okay. Good point. What I could do is we can interact, what I'll have is the plans that I'm going to be providing as your redistricting expert, I'm going to provide you with plan one. Then we are going to interact with that map, and then I'm going to get your input and we're going to do what-if scenarios, and we can do it right there at the meeting.

Mr. Ken DeArmas: That would be great.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Now the challenge is this, it's RAM, it's memory. It's how quickly it can be done. Sometimes it's a process. Sometimes it takes a couple of minutes, but it's going to be worth it. I agree with you that we could do an interactive, we just use the redistricting tools, and we just do the what-if scenarios with the group.



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Town Clerk Roig: [crosstalk] getting back and forth that everyone is here at the meeting, just giving you that feedback live.

Mr. Ken DeArmas: Yes, I also heard if we need an extra meeting, it sounds like that is going to be available. Is that true?

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Yes.

Mr. William Bamford: Well, my understanding is you are going to give us several models on Friday, correct?

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Yes.

Mr. William Bamford: We can be able--

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Yes. You will be able to look at that. In fact, the good news, if you get the Census blocks in the online mapping with the population, and I give you these plans that are going to be available in the mapping, your GIS guy is going to really love me. You will be able to look at those plans before the next meeting, by Friday.

Mr. William Bamford: Exactly, and then as so-called neighborhood experts, then we can start to vector in with minimal changes with this interactive map that they are talking about.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: That's correct.

Mr. William Bamford: That's what you said. We are going, I think that's the best route to take.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Yes, the first plan, it's going to be a minimal change and I'm making the subjective move of, "Okay. If I am taking away from district one, am I going to do it from the north or south?" In two plans, I got one and I am taking from the north and the other one I'm taking from the south. You will see that in the plan that I'm developing right now, and then we can use that as a baseline. To your point then in the meeting, we mention that plan one, get some feedback, let's see where we can go with this, we'll do these what-if scenarios.

The challenge is that you are doing, let's say, what-if scenario is this? Then we change it. We got to be careful. We have to work this out. We will have to save those changes as we go along. We might have to create another--- It can be a little tedious, but I think I will work something out, just make it.

Mr. Ken DeArmas: Now let us talk about the politics of it. You are responsible for doing that.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Not the politics.

Mr. Ken DeArmas: Not the politics side of it, but again, is your company a non-affiliation? We're relying on you, as a group here, and of course, politics, whether you want to say it's in there or it's not in there, it is. Redistricting or what do you want to say gerrymandering from before, we have to count on the fact that we don't know--



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Ms. Mary Barba: Oh, yes. That is a good point.

Mr. Ken DeArmas: I'm just going to put it out there because it is what it is in this day and time.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: That's a fair statement. The reason why Empire Consultants we are technology. We're just a managed service provider that we use redistricting it's because of the mathematical and the demographics. That is why I'm only interested in the numbers. Your committee is the driving force, as well as your Town council. Remember your Town council will have the final say in the approval of any plan, so I just know that as well. The same thing that's happening. What is great about your Town is the transparency because most of the cities I work with, we develop the plans. We have a hearing, a public presentation of it. That is the amount of input from the citizens, and then they go to a first reading. Then they go to a second reading. The good thing about the Town, Dreher, is you got a good process. I think we can make it work. I think to your point, by having an interactive map and doing the what-if scenarios, is good. I came from FAU. That is my background. The university used to do this, but then the applied research centerfold, they are no longer there. The Reubin Askew Tower is no longer in downTown Fort Lauderdale.

They need to find someone who is really good at redistricting and a glutton for punishment for this kind of stuff, and I just said, "Oh, that'd be me." That is about my whole political affiliation with any of this.

Ms. Taylor Burton Garcia: Probably you could, I know at the ethics meeting that you guys had two weeks ago with, probably was maybe spoken about a little bit that is why the cities hire people like us, is the consultants from the outside. That is why you will never see somebody up here from the Town of Davie doing something like this to avoid what you're saying as well.

Mr. Ken DeArmas: Right, and we caught that on that last one.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Yes, and to your point, because city staff sometimes does not want to get involved with it. That is you're right. It is political.

Mr. Ken DeArmas: It's not just that it is this meeting here. Again, you said that we do represent the communities that we live in. When we go back there, there's a lot of people that know that we're sitting on these boards and the politics may be at play at what it is. I want to be able to explain the process that we're going through and how we know that politics isn't playing an issue in that. Of course, there's 10 of us here, so when we make the overwhelming Census it's going to be for the best part of what we do for our districts overall anyway.

Chair Donna Evans: Mary has a question for you.

Ms. Mary Barba: Actually, it's probably for more for the administration of the Town of Davie. What is the impact of this redistricting to our districts? In other words, we're talking about politics and we're talking about these changes, how does it impact the changes that we're asking for or looking to make? Does it financially impact a specific district? What is the grand plan other than equality for each district?



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Town Administrator Lemack: There's no impact financially for the Town of Davie, no impact financially. All it does is selects representation to you all within your geographic areas that we-- In fact, there's no changes to anything that has to do with our financial model, our public service model, public safety, any of our Town departments whatsoever. It's just a matter of which district person will represent you. The mayor doesn't really affect you as the whole Town, but it's just a matter of where that line, or who your district representative is. Period.

Ms. Mary Barba: Thank you.

7. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Chair Donna Evans: Are there any other questions? By Friday, we'll have more information that we can review to be discussed and scenarios. Anything else to add? Items for next agenda will be reviewing the items from this agenda.

Chair Donna Evans: The interactive map. One other thing that's a little distressing that you said. None of your numbers will tell us a specific HOA correct?

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: That's correct.

Chair Donna Evans: We're kind of on our own as to make sure that we don't split an HOA inadvertently. Okay.

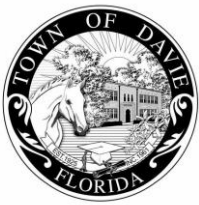
Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: We had some other projects where the community wanted the actual representatives. They didn't mind being split. In fact, they encouraged it. That's another thing we need to be prepared for.

Mr. Howard Rechtman: Through the Chair. There's no legal prohibition if we have to, if we have no choice because of the way the districts are laid out and the way the population falls we have to split an HOA.

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: You might have to. Like I told you, if a Census block falls in multiple homeowners' associations. That has happened, but that doesn't mean that there's no violation if you do that. You're striving for population equality and you're keeping aligned of the interests. Remember these criteria are not complementary. The number one priority is population equality for the Voting Rights Act. That's the pressing one. The next one is compactness and continuity, and communities of interest, that came more recently in the past 15, 20 years.

Councilmember Starkey: Can you give us the definition of what they've said about what communities of interest means? My understanding is that it's usually minority representation or demographics that way. What would you define it as?

Mr. Burton-Rodriguez: Communities of interest is a very loose-- It's basically how you define yourself as a city. If you're a homogeneous population, typically it's usually the homeowner's association, the neighborhood associations, workers associations involved as well. Thinking all that into account. In State and Federal communities of interest gives us more of the race and ethnic compositions. That does become more of a factor, but usually on municipal level, for redistricting, is your neighborhood associations.



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Chair Donna Evans: Committee, any other questions regarding this at this point? All right, then I guess our next meeting is the 18th. I'll see you then. Meeting adjourned.

8. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING

8.1 Monday, October 18, 2021 at 6:30 pm

Monday, October 25, 2021 at 6:30 pm

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

10. TOWN ATTORNEY COMMENTS

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss and no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

October 25, 2021

Date Approved