

## **RESOLUTION**

[To Establish 2024 Redistricting Guidelines and Milestones.]

**WHEREAS**, §11-40-8, *Code of Alabama*, 1975, as amended requires that City Councils divide their jurisdictions into districts having an equal number of residents with the lines thereof conforming to the center of the streets or alleys and being rectangular as far as practicable; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2020 Decennial Federal Census indicates the City of Prattville experienced a population increase over the past decade, specifically a 2020 census population of 37,781, an increase from the 2010 census population of 33,960; and

**WHEREAS**, an analysis of the City Council Districts designated by Ordinance 2011-024 and amended by Ordinance 2016-A, Page 009 and Ordinance Book 2020, Page 005 using data from the 2020 Decennial Census indicates that Prattville's population is unequally distributed among the seven council districts; and

**WHEREAS**, §11-46-23, *Code of Alabama*, 1975, as amended gives authority to the municipal governing body to readjust boundary lines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council is initiating a process to adjust the district boundaries and equalize the population in the seven districts; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to establish the guidelines to be utilized for the redistricting process.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Prattville that the following guidelines are established for the 2024 redistricting process:

1. All districts shall have equal representation. Districts will be drawn so that council districts provide "one person-one vote" representation. The deviation of plus or minus five percent from the ideal district population maintains an acceptable level of representation.
2. The plan shall comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965. According to the Voting Rights Act, districts shall be drawn in such a way that assures all voters have an equal opportunity to participate in the political process and to elect representatives of their choice.
3. Where possible, existing district boundaries shall be maintained. Traditional lines should not be redrawn if their existing locations can be reasonably accommodated and equal representation achieved.
4. The plan shall strive to be non-retrogressive, meaning the ability of minority voters to participate in the political process and to elect candidates of choice is not diminished by the resulting redistricting.
5. As much as reasonably possible, council districts should be a compact and contiguous geographic unit.

6. The 2020 U. S. Census of Population shall be the source of data for determining population and representation.
7. To the maximum extent possible, district boundaries in the redistricting plan should strive to include whole neighborhoods.
8. Existing voting centers should be maintained, if possible, for voter convenience and efficient election administration.
9. District boundaries should be easily identifiable physical features such as the centerlines of streets, alleys, roadways, streams, or other well-defined natural or manmade landmarks as boundaries.
10. Proposed redistricting plans requiring less change to current districts in order to balance population and comply with the criteria set forth herein will be generally preferred over plans which require more change to achieve such balance and compliance, so long as other rational municipal policies are not jeopardized.
11. All citizens and interested groups shall be given the opportunity to use the official data and to present alternative district plans. All submitted plans will be evaluated and considered by the City Council.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Council shall:

1. Endeavor to engage a consultant and cartographer by December 19, 2023, present a draft plan by April 16, 2024, and complete the redistricting process by July 23, 2024.
2. Interact and provide feedback to the consultant and cartographer regarding each Council district for the purpose of developing a draft redistricting plan.
3. Seek input on all proposed redistricting plans through the use of the city website and at least two (2) public hearings wherein the public can provide input regarding the proposed redistricting plans.
4. Openly solicit and consider alternative redistricting plans provided by members of the public.

**ADOPTED THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.**

By: Lora Lee Boone, President  
Prattville City Council

**AUTHENTICATED THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.**

By: Paula G. Barlow  
City Clerk

**APPROVED:**

By: Bill Gillespie, Jr.  
Mayor

