

COUNTY OF HORRY)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

RESOLUTION R-110-2021

A RESOLUTION APPROVING HORRY COUNTY REDISTRICTING AD HOC COMMITTEE CRITERIA AND PROCESS.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-27 of the Horry County Code of Ordinances, on August 19, 2021, the Horry County Redistricting Ad hoc Committee (the Committee) was appointed by Chairman Johnny Gardner, and consists of Tyler Servant, Chairman, Johnny Gardner, Al Allen, Orton Bellamy, Ken Richardson, and Doris Potter-Hickman; and

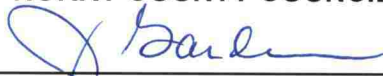
WHEREAS, the Committee was established to analyze the 2020 decennial U.S. Census data relative to Horry County, receive input from the public, members of County Council and the Horry County Board of Education, and using legal precedents and protocols, produce a new map of County and School Board Districts to be approved and adopted by Horry County Council and the Horry County Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, to document the Committee’s mission, goals and objectives, operational criteria, and process to be undertaken, the Committee has recommended for Council approval of an operating document, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that County Council hereby approves and adopts the attached “Horry County Council Redistricting Criteria and Process” as the operating document for the Horry County Redistricting Ad hoc Committee.

AND IT IS SO RESOLVED this 7th day of September, 2021.

HORRY COUNTY COUNCIL




Johnny Gardner, Chairman

Harold G. Worley, District 1
Dennis DiSabato, District 3
Tyler Servant, District 5
Orton Bellamy, District 7
R. Mark Causey, District 9
Al Allen, District 11

Bill Howard, District 2
Gary Loftus, District 4
Cam Crawford, District 6
Johnny Vaught, District 8
Danny Hardee, District 10

Attest:


Patricia S. Hartley, Clerk to Council

HORRY COUNTY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING CRITERIA AND PROCESS

- I. **Mission Statement:** The Horry County Redistricting Ad hoc committee was created on August 19, 2021 by Horry County Council Chairman Johnny Gardner. The Redistricting Ad hoc committee's mission is to analyze the 2020 Census data, receive input from the public and stakeholders, and using existing precedents and legal protocols, produce a new map of the Horry County Council and Horry County School Board districts for approval by the Horry County Council and the Horry County School Board.
- II. **Goals and Objectives:** Utilize the 2020 Census results to draw the Horry County districts' map fairly and equitably to represent the citizens of Horry County, while complying with the United States and South Carolina Constitutions and law.
- III. **Potential Redistricting Criteria for Horry County**
 - i. **Constitution.** Redistricting plans shall comply with the United States Constitution and shall not violate the opinions of the United States Supreme Court.
 - ii. **Voting Rights Act.** Redistricting plans shall comply with the Voting Rights Act. Race may be a factor considered in creation of redistricting plans; however, it must not be the predominant factor. Additionally, race must not predominate over other criteria. This redistricting plan will also abide by other existing United States statutes and laws.
 - iii. **State Constitution and Laws.** Redistricting plans shall comply with the South Carolina Constitution and the laws of this state.
 - iv. **Equal Population/Deviation.** Population shall be based on the 2020 federal decennial census. Efforts shall be made to achieve strict equality or produce the lowest overall range of deviation possible. Overall range of deviation from ideal

population will be a goal that is equal to or less than 2% but shall not exceed a legal limit of 4% for each district.

- v. **Contiguity.** County districts shall be comprised of contiguous territory, with all areas of a district accessible without having to traverse into and out of additional districts.
- vi. **Compactness.** County districts shall be compact in form and shall follow census geography.
- vii. **Communities of Interest.** Communities of interest shall be considered in the redistricting process. A variety of factors may contribute to a community of interest including, but not limited to the following: (a) economic; (b) social and cultural; (c) historic influences; (d) governmental services; (e) commonality of communications; and (f) geographic location and features (including school attendance zones).
- viii. **Avoid splitting precincts.** Redistricting plans shall make every effort to avoid splitting voting precincts.
- ix. **Preservation of political subdivisions.** Redistricting plans shall make every effort to avoid the division of existing political subdivisions and historical communities into multiple districts.
- x. **Incumbency.** All legal efforts will be made to avoid the necessity of Special Elections for both county council and school board districts following the redistricting process.

- xi. Priority of Criteria.** In establishing county districts, all criteria identified in these guidelines shall be considered. Constitutional issues shall be given priority if a conflict arises or is encountered during this process.

IV. Proposed Timeline and Process

- i.** In late August or early September 2021, the Redistricting Ad hoc committee will convene to approve its mission and the criteria it will utilize in the redistricting process.
- ii.** September 7, 2021 - Redistricting Ad hoc committee will present redistricting resolution to Council for vote and approval.
- iii.** On September 7, 2021, hold open forum to solicit public comments on redistricting resolution and criteria.
- iv.** In October 2021, develop a draft map based on public comment and input from stakeholders and County Council members.
- v.** In November 2021, hold open forum to solicit public comments on proposed map.
- vi.** Prepare draft map for the Horry County Council and the Horry County School Board approval by January 15, 2022.