

# **Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission**

**presented by  
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**March 2021**



# General Purpose and Mission

- Adjust the boundary lines of the 10 single-member districts
  - To ensure fair and equitable representation of all of Austin's residents
  - Conduct an open and transparent process enabling full public consideration of and comment on the drawing of district lines
  - Independent from influence by the city council; representative of this city's diversity
  - In compliance with Federal law and City Charter

Article II, § 3

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# District Requirements

Districts shall:

- Have reasonably equal population, except as required to comply with the Voting Rights Act (VRA)
- Comply with the VRA (e.g., section 2)
- Be geographically contiguous
- As possible, respect neighborhoods and communities of interest (excl. political parties, incumbents, candidates)
- As practicable, be geographically compact
- As practicable, have geographically identifiable boundaries



# Commission Make-Up

- 14 members
  - City Auditor randomly selects 8 Commissioners from qualified pool.
  - Commissioners choose 6 more applicants from qualified pool.
  - Fully established by \*March 1\*



# Commission Make-up

- The 6 appointees must be approved by at least five affirmative votes among the eight commissioners
- Commission must reflect the diversity of the City of Austin, including, racial, ethnic, and gender diversity
  - Formulas or specific ratios not used
- Members chosen based on relevant analytical skills and ability to be impartial
- Geographic diversity - at least one commission member resides in each of the then current council districts, to the extent feasible



# Next Steps

- Open Meetings Act requirements are applied
  - A quorum of your group is 5
  - May choose a chair to lead meetings
  - Mat go into executive session
- Review Applications of Qualified Pool of Applicants
  - Ratings Available from Auditor's offices
- Vote on final 6 members



# Questions?



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**Attorney-Client Privileged**