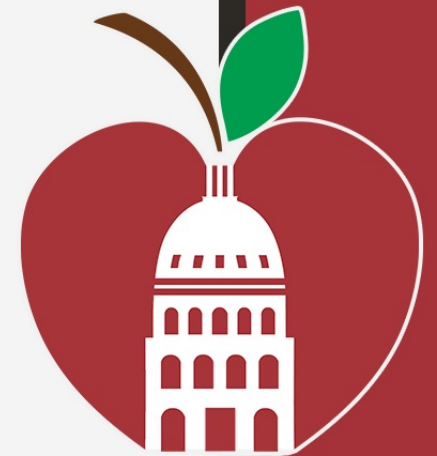


# AUSTIN ISD REDISTRICTING

NOVEMBER 11, 2021 BOARD MEETING



Presented By:

**Thompson & Horton LLP**

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# What does Board do to meet legal requirements? Adopt a process and criteria.



# Process

# Board Process

- Hire a demographic and legal team
- Team briefs Board on timelines/dates, legal requirements, and process
- Board determines how to solicit board input
- Board determines how to solicit public input
  - Public hearings are a must
  - Soliciting input from minority leaders is a must
- Board establishes redistricting criteria
- Board sets timeline

# Process (continued)

- Team briefs Board on all relevant census, population, demographic and election data
- Board actively compares and discusses drafts of plan in terms of meeting criteria and makes final decision on this basis
- Board reviews written analysis of final plan which addresses how criteria met

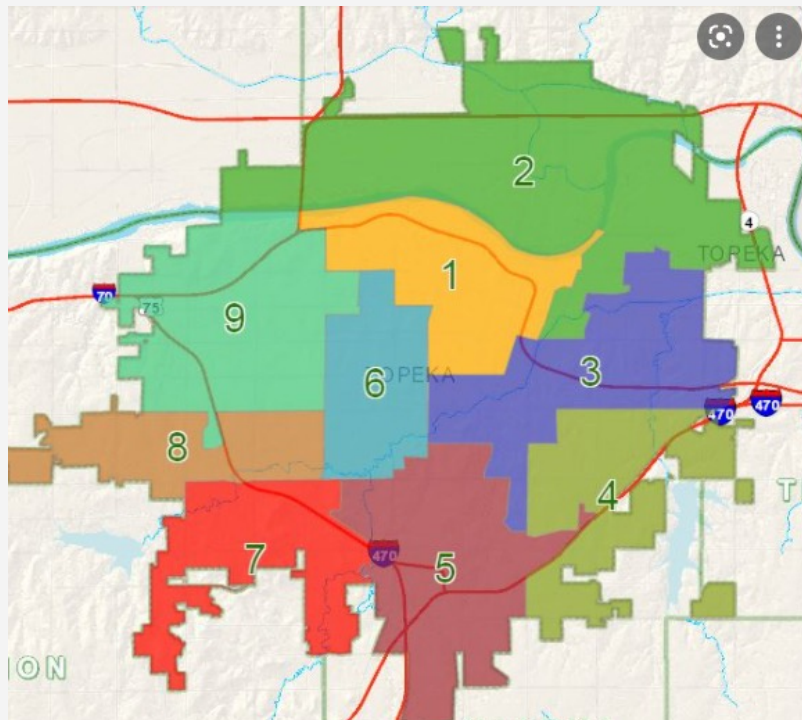
# Who's Involved in the Process?

- Board and Superintendent
- Administrator point person, often in business or special projects department

# Criteria

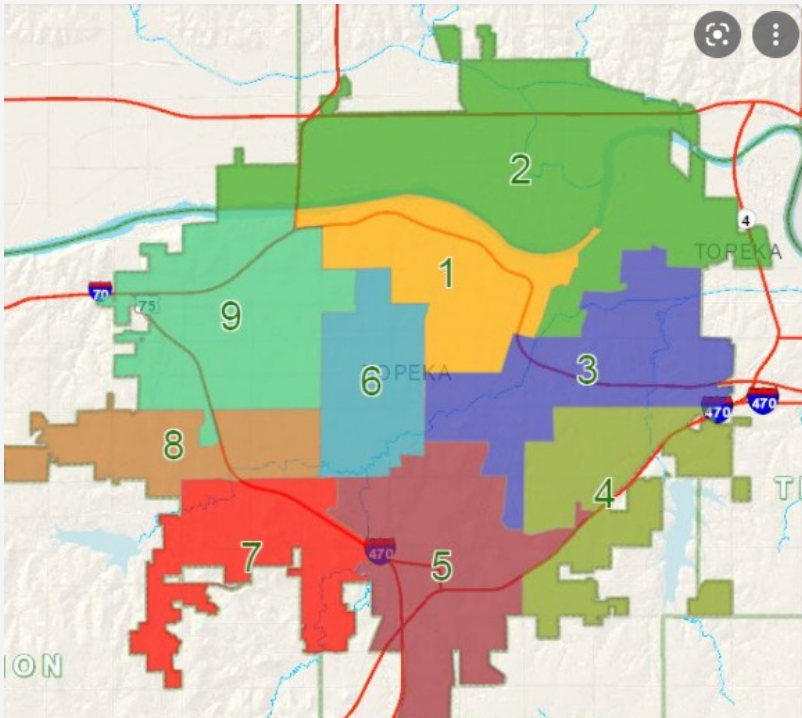


# Criteria for Drawing SMDs



- Use identifiable geographic boundaries for SMD boundaries when possible
- Maintaining communities of interest such as neighborhoods
- Use or account for other political boundaries:
  - Voting precincts
  - Polling places
- Preserve existing SMD boundaries to degree possible

# More Criteria



- Preserve incumbencies
- Adopt SMDs of substantially equal size
- Adopt compact and contiguous districts
- Avoid retrogression
- Make decisions on basis other than race whenever possible to narrowly tailor racial considerations to retrogression issues

# **Board & Community Engagement**

# Develop Input/Engagement Model

- Board and public input and engagement are crucial to redistricting to ensure transparency and that all stakeholder voices are heard. The Board, with the assistance of legal counsel, should develop an input/engagement model appropriate for the District.

# Input Examples

- **Board** – board meetings, workshops, one-on-ones with the legal and demographic team, community meetings.
- **Public** – board meetings, public hearings, community task force, townhalls, SMD- specific community meetings, redistricting website, interactive maps, educational videos for the website, and surveys

# When?

- These input channels should occur early and throughout the process at regular intervals so that input received can be incorporated into draft maps.
- The public input channels serve the additional function of educating the public about redistricting requirements, process and timelines, and next steps.

# Timeline

# When?

- Not later than the 90<sup>th</sup> day before the date of the first regular trustee election at which trustees may officially recognize and act on the last preceding federal census, the board shall redivide the district into the appropriate number of trustee districts if the census data indicates that the population of the most populous district exceeds the population of the least populous district by more than 10 percent. Texas Education Code §11.052(i).
- The Board is required to hold November elections.
- Therefore, redistricting for November elections will first be implemented at the **November 8, 2022** election, and the Board **must** redistrict by **August 10, 2022**.



# Redistricting Timeline – November 2022

| DATE                             | ACTIVITY   |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>August 2021</b>               | Receive federal census data.*  |
| <b>November to December 2021</b> | <p>Board receives legal overview of redistricting process.</p> <p>Demographer accesses and analyzes federal decennial census data, including change analysis (2010 to 2020).</p> <p>Lawyer and demographer present change analysis to the Board.</p> <p>Board reviews (and/or adopts) <b>redistricting criteria, process, and timeline.</b></p>                                    |
| <b>January – April 2022</b>      | <p>Public education materials released on website and in community forums.</p> <p>Approximately 4-6 board meetings, committee meetings, townhalls or public hearings for input on redistricting criteria, including neighborhoods and communities of interest and comment on specific draft plans.</p> <p>Demographer drafts alternative plans based on Board/community input.</p> |

# Redistricting Timeline – November 2022

| DATE                    | ACTIVITY   |
|-------------------------|--|
| January – April 2022    | Board reviews and compares draft plans.                                  |
| May 2022                | Board <b>adopts final plan.</b>  |
| July 23, 2022           | First Day to File for Place on Ballot                                    |
| <b>August 10, 2022</b>  | Deadline to Adopt Redistricting Plan                                     |
| <b>August 22, 2022</b>  | Deadline to File for a Place on the Ballot<br>Deadline to order election |
| <b>November 8, 2022</b> | Election Day   |

**THANK YOU!**

