

# City of El Paso Redistricting Process

April 11, 2022 Work Session

6.8 Support transparent and inclusive government

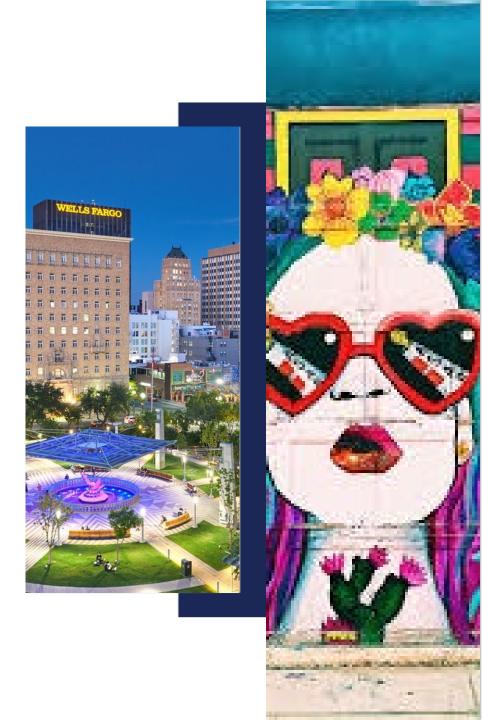


- 1. Why Redistrict?
- 2. Legal Requirements
- 3. Districting Commission Process
- 4. Review of Recommended Plans
- 5. Commission Testimony
- 6. City Council Discussion
- 7. Public Comment/Input



# Redistricting Timeline

April 27, 2021	<ul> <li>Council Establishes Districting Commission</li> </ul>		
August 26, 2021	Census Results Released		
September 1, 2021	<ul> <li>Commissioner Appointment Deadline</li> <li>Regular Meetings Began September 16</li> </ul>		
October 26, 2021	<ul> <li>Council Adopted Resolution to Establish Review Criteria</li> </ul>		
December 2021	• El Paso County Adopts New Precincts		
January 24 – February 10, 2022	Community Outreach Meetings		
March 23, 2022	Commission Recommended Three Plans to Council		
April 11, 2022	Presentation of Recommended District Plans		
April 26, 2022	<ul> <li>Second Hearing of District Plans</li> </ul>		
May 8, 2022	<ul> <li>Last Day Council can adopt new boundaries</li> </ul>		



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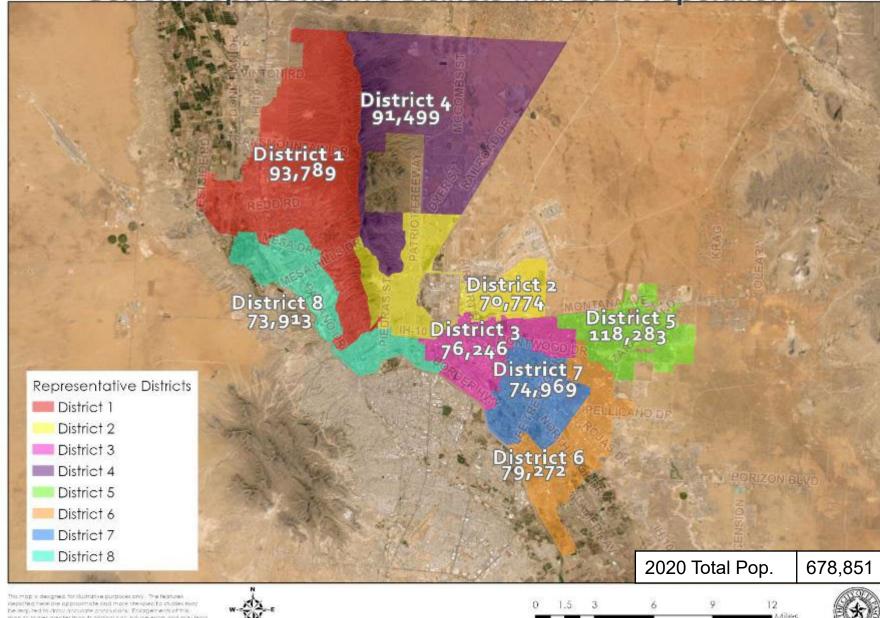


## Why Redistrict?

- One Person One Vote Principle
  - Constitutional mandate
- Release of the Census updates the official population of El Paso
- We redistrict to maintain substantial equality in the populations of Representative districts



### Current Representative Districts with 2020 Populations



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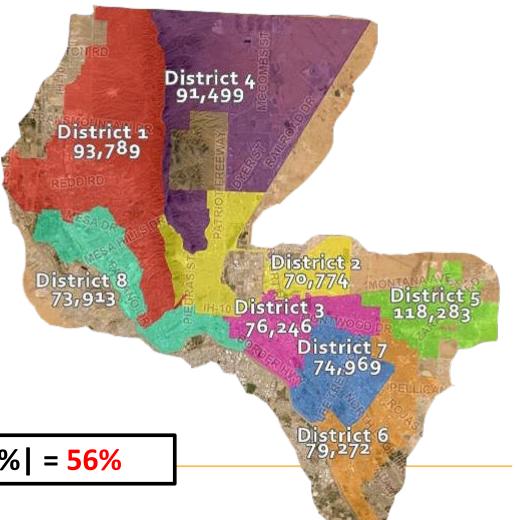
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### **Current Deviation**

District	Рор.	ldeal Size	Difference	Deviation
1	93,789	84,851	8,937	10.5%
2	70,774	84,851	(14,078)	(16.6%)
3	76,246	84,851	(8,606)	(10.1%)
4	91,499	84,851	6,647	7.8%
5	118,283	84,851	33,431	39.4%
6	79,272	84,851	(5,580)	(6.6%)
7	74,969	84,851	(9,893)	(11.6%)
8	73,913	84,851	(10,939)	(12.9%)
Total	678,815			



|39.4%| + |(16.6)%| = 56%



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### Legal Requirements - Federal

- 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment & Voting Rights Act Section 2
- One Person One Vote
  - 10% threshold held by courts
- Nondiscriminatory





## Shelby v. Holder (2013)

- Prior to Shelby v. Holder the City was required to submit its redistricting plan to the Department of Justice for preclearance.
- Shelby eliminated preclearance review requirement.
  - Biggest change from the 2010-2012 process





## Traditional Districting Criteria

- Courts have identified "traditional districting principles" that should be neutrally applied
- Shaw v. Reno (1993) State could not disregarded traditional redistricting principals and draw boundaries along racial lines





# Adopted Districting Criteria

- 1. Where possible, easily identifiable geographic boundaries.
- 2. Communities of interest should be maintained, avoid splitting neighborhoods
- 3. To the extent possible districts should be composed of whole voting precincts
- 4. To the extent possible districts should be based on existing districts
- 5. Districts should be relatively equal in population (10% limit)
- 6. Districts should be composed of compact and contiguous area
- 7. Consideration may be given to preserve incumbent districts
- 8. No packing or cracking of minority voters





Redistricting Requirements - Local

- Article II Section 2.4(B) of the EI Paso City Code requires the City at the time of the Decennial Census to establish a Districting Commission
  - One Appointee from each member of Council
  - Makes recommendations on district Plans to Council





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## **Districting Process**

- Districting Commission's first meeting took place on September 15, 2021
- Total of 15 public meetings held at City Hall
  - Hybrid format to allow both in-person and virtual participation
- Total of 15 community meetings held city-wide (approx. 100 participants)
  - 8 in-person meetings at locations across the City
  - 2 fully virtual meetings
  - 3 auxiliary meetings hosted by Council Representatives (Districts 1, 3, and 7)
  - 4 additional presentations to associations and interest groups (at requested)



# Outreach

#### iam\_elpaso

iam\_elpaso Beginning Wednesday, Nov. 3, the City of El Paso's Districting Commission will host hybrid (in-person and virtual) biweekly meetings to discuss roposed amendments to the City Council's district In-Person: City Hall, 300 N. Campbell (masks are strongly recommended)

Virtually: Call (915) 213-4096: enter 207 028 620# The meetings will begin at 4 p.m. with public comment at 5 p.m.

View Insight

#### City of El Paso ■EIPasoTXGa

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City Invites Community to Participate in

**Districting Process** 

1 of 5 Beginning Nov. 3, the City's Districting Commission will host hybrid biweekly meetings at 4pm to discuss proposed amendments to the Council's district In-Person: City Hall, 300 N. Campbell (masks Virtually: Call (915) 213-4096; enter 207 028 620#

City Invites Community to Participate in **Districting Process** 

stricting process to modify City Council

Future voting maps for El Paso City Council districts get narrowed do City of El Paso Districting Commission Sets Deadline for Map Submission LATEST News News The City of El Paso Districting Commission has set Wednesday, March 2, 2022, for redistricting map s redraw the boundaries for all City Course El Paso Times 3/28/22, 8:49 PM

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vidents asked for feedback on City Council districts

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El Paso seeks input from residents in City Council redistricting meeting

City of El Paso residents are invited to get involved in the ongoing redistricting process Anthony Jackson El Paso Times that will redraw boundaries for all City Council districts. A new map could impact future elections for city representatives. Members of the public can review and provide comments to the Districting Commission The next Districting Commission meeting will be at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12. about one of the eight currently proposed maps. El Pasoans can participate in-person at City Hall, 300 N. Campbell St., with masks strongly ы газовые сан распорате иг рекооп ас слу нан, 300 гг. санрост эт., чин шаях recommended, or virtually by calling 915-213-4096 and entering 207 028 620#. Residents also are invited to design their own map proposals using a free online platform called Dave's Redistricting to draw new City Council district boundaries. More: Claudia Ordaz Perez moves to challenge Art Fierro for District 79 state House seat More: El Paso residents can participate in meetings on new City Council boundaries Proposed maps, which will be submitted to the city's Districting Commission, should reflect the city's population changes, according to the 2020 census. To review proposed maps and information on map requirements and guidelines, Jone have to enhutic a map proposal, visit ElPasoTexas.gov/ShapeEP. and resolution requiring the city to



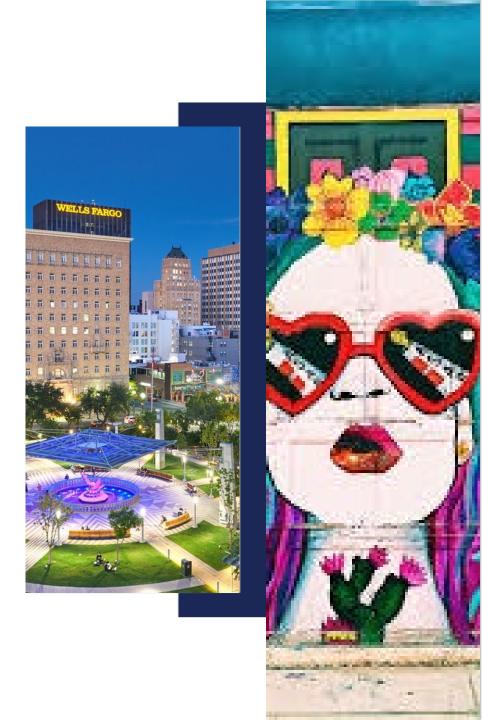




## District Plans – Drafting and Review

- Staff Drafts: Three plans
- Commissioner Drafts: Eight plans
- Public Drafts: 10 plans
- Live Editing Sessions at March 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Commission Meetings
  - March 23, 2022 Meeting concluded with ranked choice voting to select top three maps as recommendation to Council
    - First Choice Commissioner Draft #7 (as revised 3-23-2022)
    - Second Choice Commissioner Draft #6 (as revised 3-23-2022)
    - Third Choice Commissioner Draft #8 (as revised 3-23-2022)



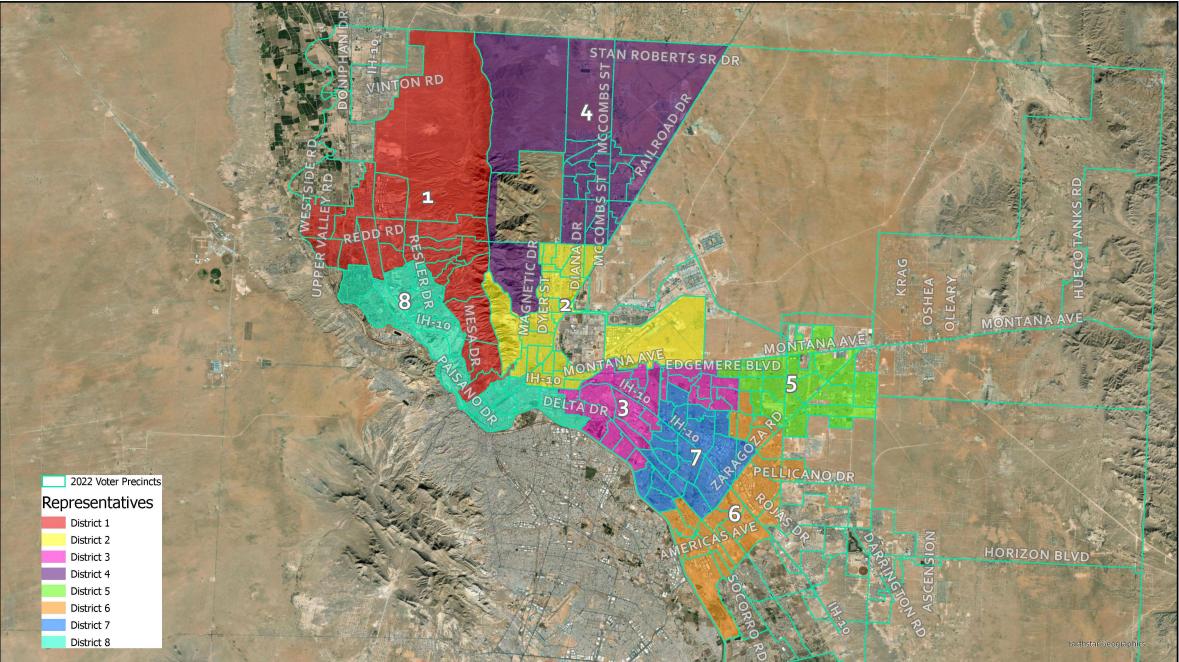


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### **Current Districts**



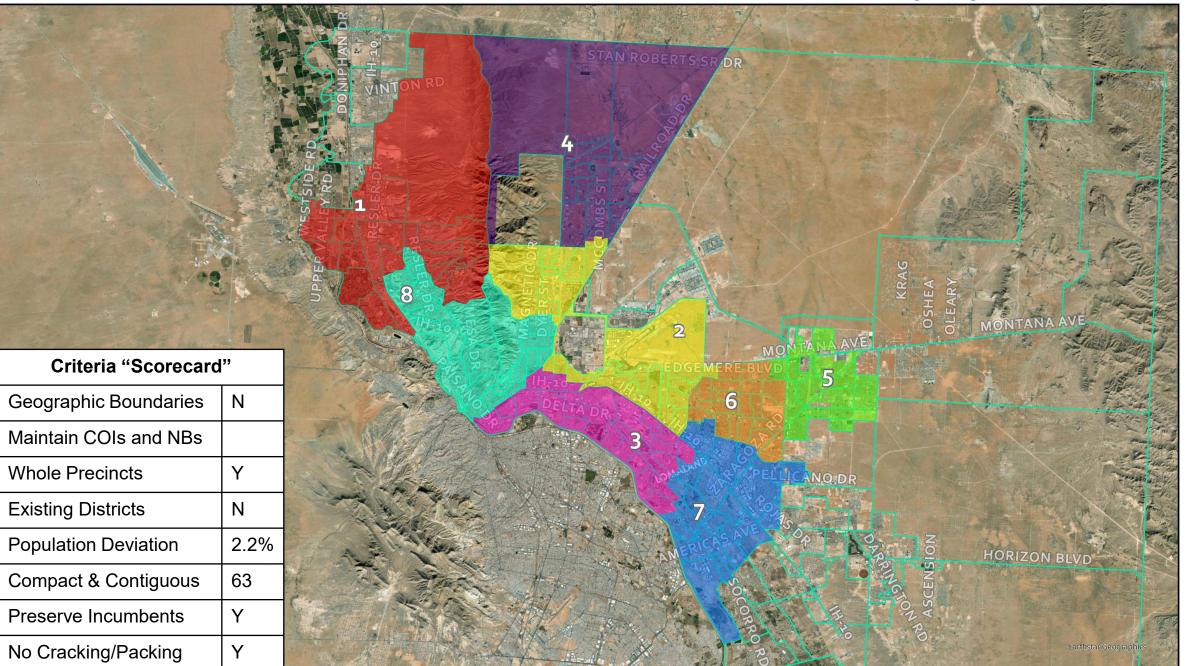


## Adopted Districting Criteria

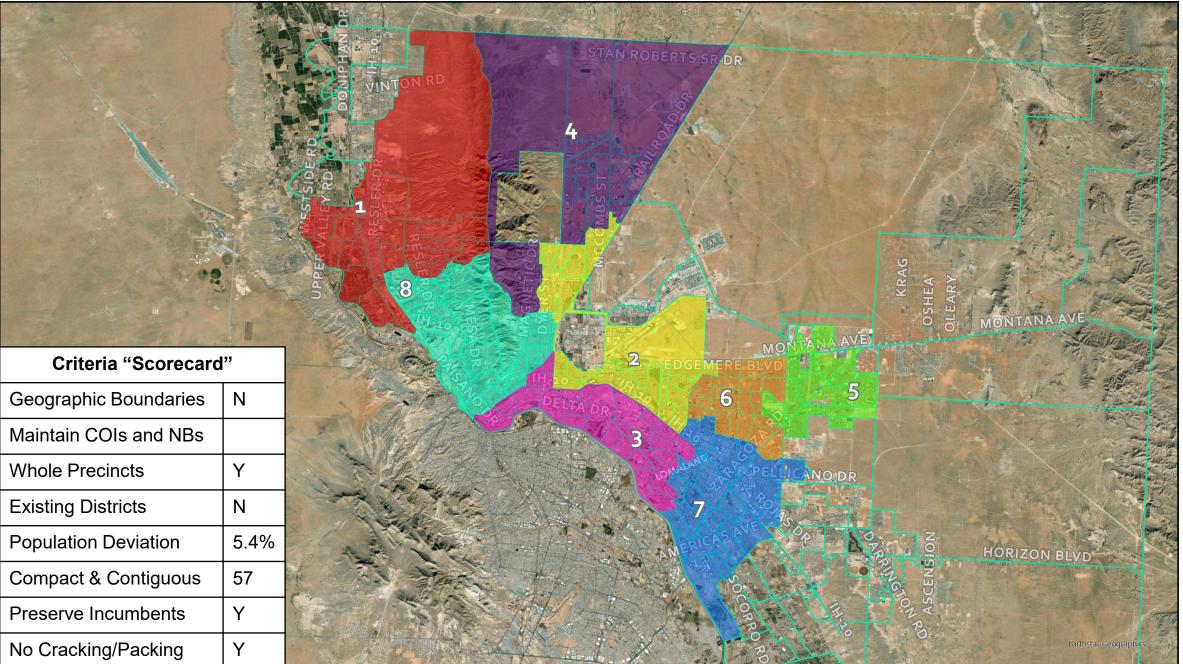
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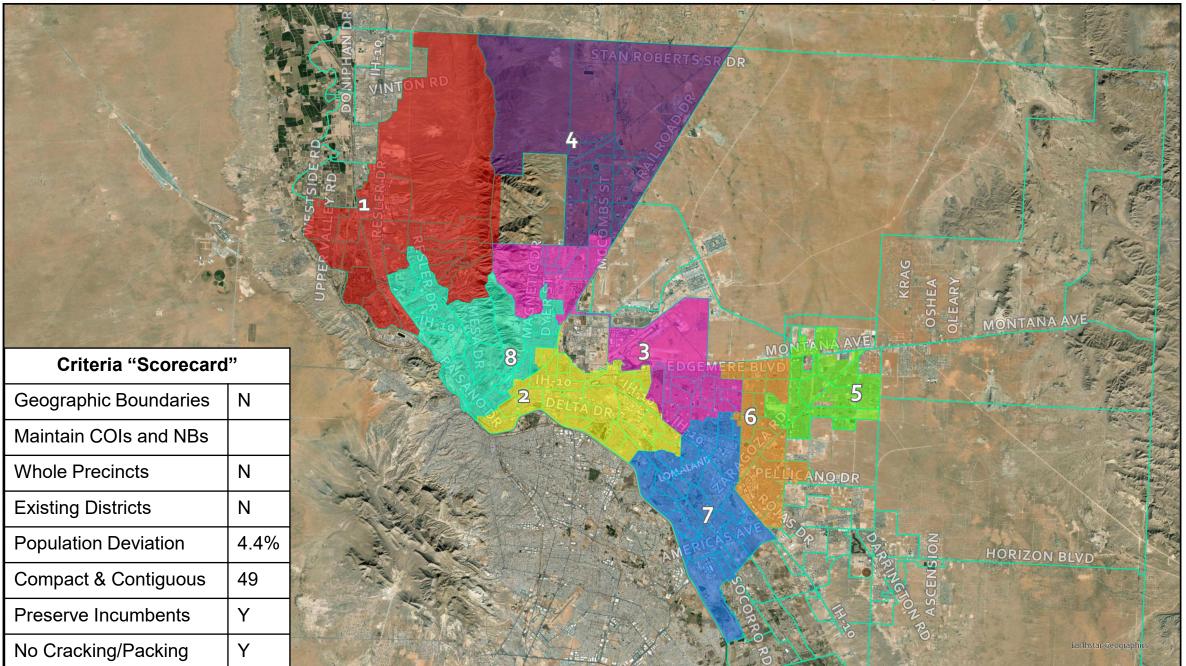
### First Choice- Commissioner Draft #7 Revised 3/23/2022



### Second Choice - Commissioner Draft #6 Revised 3/23/2022



### Third Choice - Commissioner Draft #8 Revised 3/23/2022





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## Procedure for Reviewing District Plans

- Edit one District Plan at a time
- All proposed revisions will require a Motion, Second, and Approval by a majority of Council
  - Staff will then make the approved edit and re-assess the district deviation
- To Approve, Remove, or Recall a District Plan Motion, Second and majority approval will be required





### Next Steps- Approval of a Resolution

- To adopt a districting plan which establishes new district boundary lines based on the 2020 U.S. Census data, to become effective immediately; and dissolving of the Districting Commission, as they have completed their duties in the redistricting process as identified in the City Charter.
  - Selected District Plan attached as Exhibit
  - Sent to County Elections Office who then file with State Comptroller
  - Revised boundaries used in November election



# **Mission**

Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community



Integrity, Respect, Excellence, Accountability, People

# Vision

Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government

