

RESOLUTION NO. R11-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES FOR PERSONS SUBMITTING COMMENTS AND SPECIFIC REDISTRICTING PROPOSALS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor have certain responsibilities for redistricting under federal and state law, including but not limited to, Amendments 14 and 15 to the United States Constitution, U.S.C.A. (West 2006) and the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C.A. §§ 1973 and 1973c (West 2010); and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2058.001 and 2058.002 (Vernon 2008); and

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor have certain responsibilities for redistricting under the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to provide for the orderly consideration and evaluation of redistricting plans which may come before the City Council and Mayor; and

WHEREAS, these guidelines relate to persons who have specific redistricting plans they wish the City Council and Mayor to consider; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor welcomes any comments relevant to the redistricting process.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS:

THAT in order to make sure that any plan that might be submitted is of maximum assistance to the City Council and Mayor in its decision making process, the City Council and Mayor hereby set the following guidelines:

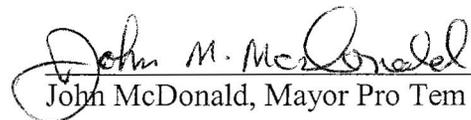
1. Proposed plans must be submitted in writing and be legible. If a plan is submitted orally, there is significant opportunity for misunderstanding, and it is possible that errors may be made in analyzing it. The City Council and Mayor wants to be sure that all proposals are fully and accurately considered.
2. Any plan must show the total population and voting age population for African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and Anglo/other for each proposed City Council district based on 2010 Census Data. If a plan is submitted without a population breakdown, the City Council and Mayor may not have sufficient information to give it full consideration.

3. Plans should redistrict the entire City of Taylor. The City Council and Mayor, of course, will be considering the effect of any plan on the entire City. Also, the City Council and Mayor are subject to the Voting Rights Act, which protects various racial and language minorities. Thus, as a matter of federal law, the City Council will be required to consider the effect of any proposal on multiple racial and ethnic groups. If a plan does not redistrict the entire City, it may be impossible for the City Council and Mayor to assess its impact on one or more protected minority groups.
4. Plans should conform to the criteria the City Council and Mayor will be using in drawing new councilmember districts.
5. Comments must be submitted in writing and be legible, even if the person also makes the comments orally at a public hearing.
6. Persons providing comments and those submitting proposed plans must identify themselves by full name and home address and provide a phone number and, if available, an e-mail address to the City Clerk. The City Council may wish to follow up on such comments or obtain additional information about submitted plans.
7. All comments and proposed plans must be submitted to the City Council by the close of the public hearing.

This resolution shall be effective upon passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Taylor, Texas this 28th day of April, 2011.

APPROVED:


John McDonald, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:


Susan Brock, City Clerk