NEIGHBORHOODS

ICRC PRESENTATION August 7, 2013

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ORDINANCE NO. 20120802-015

(E) The commission shall establish the boundaries of the council districts ... using the following criteria... in the following order of priority:

(1) Districts shall comply with the United States Constitution.(2) Districts shall comply with the federal and state law.(3) Districts shall be geographically contiguous.

(4) The geographic integrity of any local neighborhood, or local community of interest shall be respected.... A community of interest is a contiguous population that shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation.



ORDINANCE NO. 20120802-015 (Continued)

- (E) The commission shall establish the boundaries of the council districts...using the following criteria...in the following order of priority:
- (5) To the extent practicable, district boundaries shall be drawn to encourage geographical compactness such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for more distant populations.
- (6) To the extent practicable, district boundaries shall be drawn using the boundaries of existing election precincts.(7) To the extent practicable, district boundaries shall be drawn using geographically identifiable boundaries.



What is a "Neighborhood"

Easy to define, but no simple answer: neigh·bor·hood /' nābər, hood/ (Noun) - A district, esp. one forming a community within a town or city. The people of such a district.



What is a "Neighborhood"

- Neighborhood identities and boundaries are determined in multiple ways:
- Newer neighborhoods subdivision development.
- Older neighborhoods proximity to a park or a school.
- Other boundaries school & elected official lines
- Social forces areas settled by immigrants, etc.
- Government policy historic districts.
- Self description

Take Away – Many ways neighborhoods are created and recognized.



"Community of Interest"

A community of interest is a local population with common social and economic interests that would benefit from unified political representation. Shared characteristics may include:

- class or socio-economic status,
- race, ethnicity/culture,
- language,
- religion,
- transportation patterns,
- family structures,
- population age,
- housing patterns, geography
- shared geographical, social and historical factors.
- school vertical capture areas (HS, MS, ES)
- harmony of people's opinions, actions or characters.



"Neighborhood Maps"

- > No official and definitive map of Austin neighborhoods.
- > Many local maps of neighborhoods exist, including neighborhood maps by
 - Competing realtor maps
 - Out dated City maps,
 - Unverified, self described COA Community Registry Maps of Neighborhood Associations
 - Annexation maps, and
 - dated ANC sector map.
- > However, most of these maps have significant limitations.
 - Out dated
 - Incorrect boundaries lines by staff
 - Self described boundary lines that compete with other NA boundaries
 - City has grown and areas not yet added
 - City maps often do not have exacting boundaries because maps are for planning purposes
- Lets look at some examples of these maps.







Neighborhood Reporting Maps Neighborhood Maps



Neighborhood Maps

ANC recognizes the need for clear, reliable and definitive **neighborhood** and **community of interest maps** to provide the ICRC with public comment and assistance. To that end, ANC:

- Has a new project underway to update and provide a comprehensive map of neighborhoods.
- Is working with our members in each of our 10 sectors across town to gain feedback and verification of neighborhood boundaries.
- Will provide the Commissioners with these new maps as soon as practical.



QUESTIONS ?



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