

RESOLUTION NO. 1206202201

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
TOWN OF LITTLE ELM §
 §

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LITTLE ELM, TEXAS
ADOPTING CRITERIA FOR USE IN CREATING
TOWN COUNCIL DISTRICTS**

WHEREAS, the Charter of the Town of Little Elm provides that the Town Council shall include four council positions elected from single member districts within the town; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Little Elm Charter Section 3.02 mandates that the boundaries of the single member districts shall be as equal in population as practical and reviewed and updated by the Town Council every four (4) years; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the examination of the 2022 Census data duly undertaken at the Council's request pursuant to its obligations under Section 3.02, the Town Council has determined that a population imbalance exists requiring the redistricting of the Town Councilmember Districts; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has certain responsibilities for updating single member districts for the election of council members under federal and state law including but not limited to Amendments 14 and 15 to the United States Constitution, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 52 U.S.C. §§ 10301, *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Town Council to comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and with all other relevant and applicable law, including the U.S. Supreme Court's *Shaw v. Reno* jurisprudence; and

WHEREAS, a set of established districting criteria and guidelines will serve as a framework to guide the Town in the consideration of districting plans; and

WHEREAS, districting criteria will assist the Town in its efforts to comply with all applicable federal and state laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LITTLE ELM, IN DENTON COUNTY, TEXAS, that the Town, in its adoption of a districting plan for the Town Council, will adhere to the following criteria to the greatest extent possible when drawing district boundaries:

1. Where possible, easily identifiable geographic boundaries should be followed and be drawn on census geography.
2. In drawing districts, care should be taken to be mindful of facility locations.

3. To the extent possible, districts should be drawn in a way that permits the creation of practical voting precincts and that ensures that adequate facilities for polling places exist in each voting precinct.
4. Town Council Districts shall be configured so that they are relatively equal in total population according to the 2020 federal census and any adjustments to that data that may be required due to the passage of time since the release of the 2010 data. In no event should the total deviation between the largest and the smallest district exceed ten percent.
5. Consideration may be given to the preservation of incumbent-constituency relations by recognition of the residence of incumbents and their history in representing certain areas.
6. The districts should be compact and composed of contiguous territory as permitted by the Town's natural geographic features. Compactness may contain a functional, as well as a geographical dimension.
7. The redistricting plan should be narrowly tailored to comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and shall not result in the denial or abridgement of the rights of racial or language minorities with respect to their effective exercise of the electoral franchise.
8. The redistricting plan should not fragment a geographically compact minority community or pack minority voters in the presence of polarized voting so as to create liability under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, 52 U.S.C. § 10301.

This resolution shall be effective upon passage.

PASSED and **APPROVED** this, the 6th day of December, 2022.

TOWN OF LITTLE ELM, TEXAS

Curtis J. Cornelious, Mayor
Town of Little Elm, Texas

ATTEST:

Caitlan Biggs, Town Secretary