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OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM December 21, 2021

TO: The Honorable Sam Newby, City Council President
FR: The Honorable Aaron Bowman, Chair, Special Committee on Redistricting
RE: Conclusion of the Special Committee on Redistricting

The Special Committee on Redistricting was initiated on July 2, 2021, by Council President Sam Newby. The committee was given the following charge:

- select a redistricting consultant
- obtain legally permissible considerations for redistricting in accordance with state, federal, and case law
- schedule for preparation of a plan to be submitted to City Council
- present a plan to the Rules Committee and City Council.

Members of the Special Committee on Redistricting included the following City Council Members: Aaron Bowman (Chair), Danny Becton (Vice Chair), Garrett Dennis, Brenda Priestly Jackson, and Randy White.

The committee selected Bill Killingsworth, Director of the City of Jacksonville Planning and Development Department, and his team as expert consultants to assist with U.S. Census data collection and creation of the maps which would be discussed and considered by the Special Committee on Redistricting.

The committee meetings were held on the following dates: August 18, 2021; August 24, 2021; September 27, 2021; October 28, 2021; and December 6, 2021. Also, members of the committee met in several noticed meetings to discuss specific geographical locations and individual City Council district concerns.

Representatives of the Duval County School Board, specifically Chair Darryl Willie and Vice Chair, Dr. Kelly Coker, attended the meetings and provided input. Additionally, public comment was received at each committee meeting.

On October 28, 2021, Mr. Killingsworth and the Planning and Development Department presented the proposed City Council District and At-Large maps to the Special Committee on Redistricting for consideration. The maps were unanimously approved by the committee.

On December 6, 2021, the committee held its final meeting. The Office of General Counsel provided the draft legislation incorporating the committee's recommended City Council District and At-Large maps, the Duval County School Board district maps, and other documentation required by the Ordinance Code. The Special Committee on Redistricting unanimously approved the draft legislation and directed that it be filed prior to the January 11, 2022, City Council meeting per Section 18.107(a), Ordinance Code.

We are happy to report that the Special Committee on Redistricting concluded its charge and has filed the redistricting legislation, which has been assigned as Ordinance 2022-001 and will be introduced at the City Council meeting on January 11, 2022, for referral to the Rules Committee for further action.

I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve as Chair of the Special Committee on Redistricting.