

Jackson County Reapportionment Committee
Meeting Minutes -Approved as Amended
2/17/2022

Meeting Called to Order at 11:00 a.m.

Committee Members in Attendance:

Bobbie Hernandez-District 1, Democrat; Shalonn "Kiki" Curls-District 2, Democrat; Paul Jungmann-District 3, Republican; Co-Chair Ralph Munyan-District 4, Republican; Ruth Pirch-District 5, Republican; Co-Chair Phil LeVota-District 6, Democrat

Quorum Present

Motion by Bobbie Hernandez to waive the reading and to approve the minutes. Seconded by Shalonn "Kiki" Curls. Unanimous, motion passed.

New Business: Motion by Co-Chair Ralph Munyan to vote on map GOP Final Map 021722 (posted) and seconded by Paul Jungmann. Ralph read statement (posted) and encouraged members to approve the map. Shalonn "Kiki" Curls requested consideration of alternate map created by stakeholders incorporating all traditional redistricting principals including communities of interest and compactness.

Vote on GOP Final Map 021722: Bobbie Hernandez-No; Shalonn "Kiki" Curls-No; Paul Jungmann-Yes; Co-Chair Ralph Munyan-Yes; Ruth Pirch-Yes; Co-Chair Phil LeVota-No. Motion failed. Charter requires map be signed by two members of each party.

Motion by Co-Chair Phil LeVota to consider Map In District 02-17-2022 (posted). Seconded by Shalonn "Kiki" Curls. Unanimous, motion passed.

Bobbie Hernandez the map stretches the imagination of compactness but addresses the more dire need for representation of those in the community. Shalonn "Kiki" Curls exhaustive process to create fair districts for communities of interest not partisan. Co-Chair Ralph Munyan read a statement (posted) thanking Jackson County Executive and staff, Democrat colleagues on committee. District 1 is not compact and that alone makes this map untenable. Several of the districts appear to be gerrymandered, undermining citizens confidence in the electoral process.

Shalonn "Kiki" Curls gerrymandering is manipulation to favor a particular party. Paul Jungmann map has "appearance" of gerrymandering will compromise and support it reluctantly. What is most important is to assure that elections are fair and free. Co-Chair Phil LeVota appreciates the bipartisan spirit of the committee.

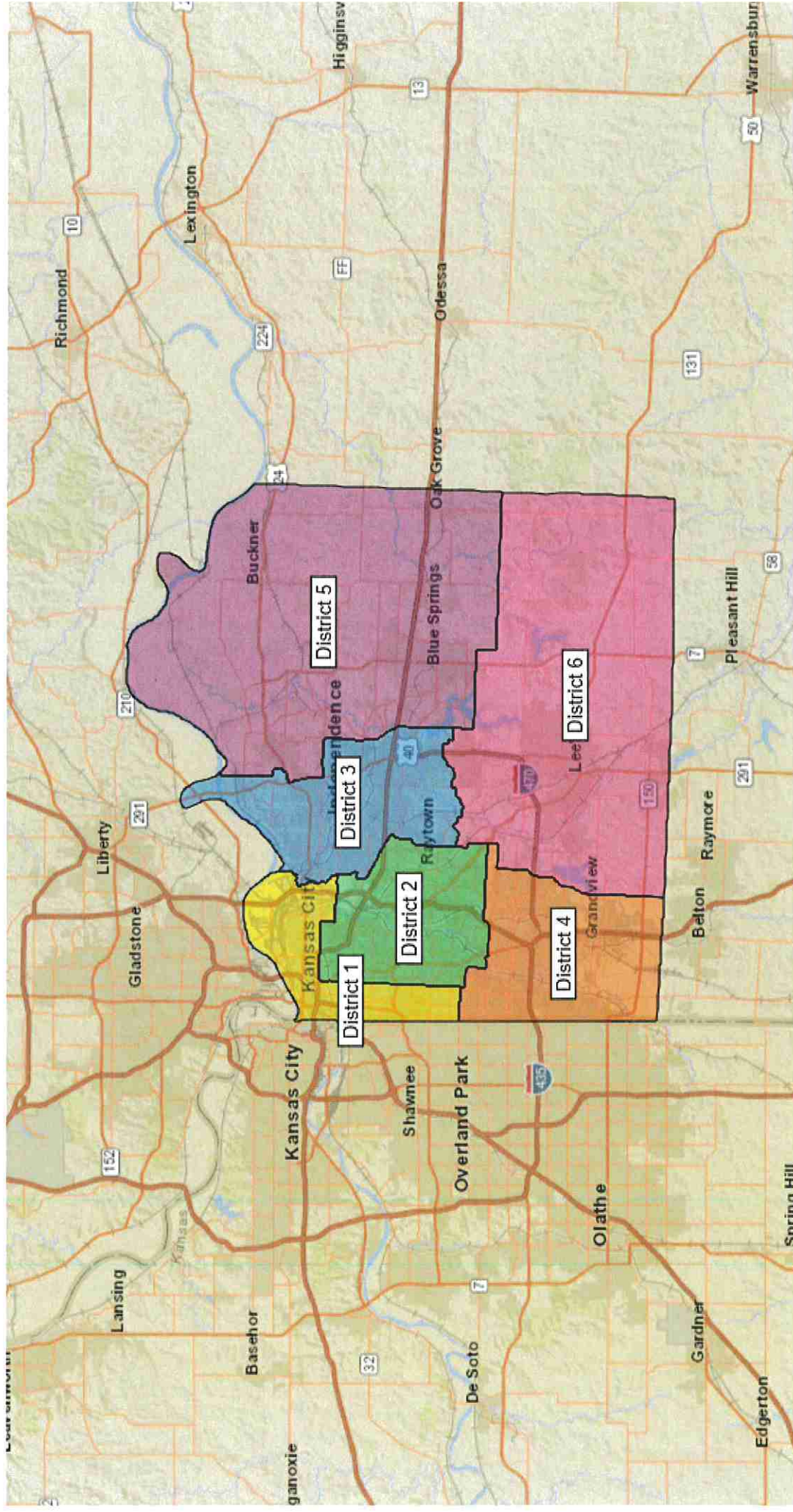
Vote on Map In District 02-17-2022: Bobbie Hernandez-Yes; Shalonn "Kiki" Curls-Yes; Paul Jungmann-Yes; Co-Chair Ralph Munyan-Yes; Ruth Pirch-Yes; Co-Chair Phil LeVota-Yes. Unanimous, motion passed. Will be filed with the County Executive, the Clerk of the County Legislature and the offices charged with conducting elections in the county.

Co-Chairs discuss to vote on At Large map at Friday's meeting scheduled for 9:00 a.m. at the Downtown Courthouse. Hope the roads will be clear and everyone can attend in person. Zoom will be available.

Unfinished Business: None

Motion by Shalonn "Kiki" Curls to adjourn. Seconded by Bobbie Hernandez. Unanimous, motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 a.m.



Co-Chair Ralph Munyan Republican Map Statement

1. Before the vote on our map, I wish to read a statement from the Republican members of this committee.
2. Per our County Charter, the duty of our committee is to “divide the county into districts and districts at large that are compact, of continuous territory, and as nearly of equal population as practicable.”
3. I believe this map does that.
4. In addition, no map should be either gerrymandered or have the appearance of being gerrymandered because gerrymandering undermines citizens confidence in the electoral process.
5. We believe this map is drawn fairly with no intention of gerrymandering districts. We did this by as much as possible following fixed boundaries such as city borders and well known thoroughfares.
6. Thank you.

Co-Chair Ralph Munyan Democrat Map Statement

1. Before the vote on the Democrat map, I wish to read a statement from the Republican members of this committee.
2. We first wish to thank the Jackson County staff that have contributed so much to the work of this committee, County Executive Frank White, Clark Clifford, Miriam Hennosy, Jay Haydon, Marshanna C. Smith, Gary J. Bindley, and Rich Buford.
3. We also wish to thank our Democrat colleagues for the time and effort they put into the reapportionment process, especially, co-chair Phil Levota for leading each of our meetings with great professionalism.
4. Regarding the upcoming map we will be voting on shortly: We approve this map with reluctance.
5. As I stated before, under our County Charter, our duty is to “divide the county into districts and districts at large that are compact, of continuous territory, and as nearly of equal population as practicable.”
6. District 1 is not compact and that alone makes this map untenable.
7. In addition, no map should be either gerrymandered or have the appearance of being gerrymandered because gerrymandering undermines citizens confidence in the electoral process.
8. I do not know if [Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4] have been gerrymandered, but [they] appear to be gerrymandered. This is because to a large degree in many cases they fail to respect fixed boundaries in the county, including city borders and well recognized thoroughfares. Thus, gerrymandered or not, we believe the individual district maps will serve undermine the confidence of Jackson County residents in the electoral process.
9. However, we will approve this map because (a) much good faith effort has gone into the general map drawing process by both sides and (b) we don’t believe these maps should be drawn by the courts.
10. Thank you, and God Bless Jackson County, the sovereign State of Missouri, and the United States of America.

Map In District 02-17-2022

