

**Proposal to
Broward County
for Redistricting Study of County Commission District Boundaries**

**Submitted by the
John Scott Dailey Florida Institute of Government
Florida Atlantic University**

In collaboration with a Project Team drawn from the Department of Geosciences and Department of Urban and Regional Planning at Florida Atlantic University (FAU), the John Scott Dailey Florida Institute of Government (IOG) proposes to undertake the following activities for Broward County:

Project tasks

- Establish criteria and process
 - County Charter and other legal requirements: The Project Team will review County Charter requirements and other legal requirements having a bearing on the redistricting process.
 - Public outreach requirements: The Project Team will work with the Contract Administrator designated by Broward County to prepare for the required public community, community leader, and Board of Commissioners meetings.
- Data collection
 - Project Team to provide:
 - 2020 Census Data (PL 94-171) – tentatively available September 30, 2021
 - Base GIS layers
 - County to provide:
 - GIS layers
 - Current Board of Commissioners district boundaries
 - Neighborhoods and subdivisions
 - Communities or areas of Interest
 - Home addresses of current County Commissioners
 - Location and size of new residential development projects that are currently under development or were recently completed for possible use by the consultant in developing redistricting options
- Base map creation
 - The Project Team will create initial base map
- Current Commission District analysis
 - The Project Team will evaluate the current Commission Districts based on 2020 Census data.

- Analysis of the current status of districts will be provided to the Contract Administrator as part of the initial report containing four map options.
- Presentation of redistricting process
 - The Project Team will meet with the Board of Commissioners to discuss the redistricting process and consultation plans.
 - The Project Team will conduct four public meetings in geographically and demographically diverse locations to present the redistricting process to the public and to collect input.
 - The Project Team will conduct five meetings with key community leaders to discuss the redistricting process and collect input.
- Creation and presentation of redistricting options
 - The Project Team will conduct a public meeting to present the current district analysis and draft map options and to receive feedback.
 - The Project Team will submit an initial report to the Contract Administrator discussing the current status of districts, community input received, and four draft map options, including discussion of the considerations underlying those options.
 - The Project Team will meet with the Board of Commissioners to present draft plans.
 - After receiving feedback from the public, the staff review, and the Board of Commissioners, the Project Team will prepare and submit a final report for consideration by the Board.

Additional services

- Additional services not included within the scope of this proposal
 - Additional public or Board of Commissioners meetings
 - Additional redistricting plans
 - Reprecincting plans
 - Creation of public map submission process
 - Review of outside maps
 - Expert testimony
- Additional services will be billed on an hourly basis, except for the provision of additional plans, which will be billed on a fixed-fee basis.

Typical criteria for determining local government election districts

- Population equality criteria (unless Charter provides different language)
 - Districts should have approximately the same number of people when all persons, regardless of age, are counted. Ideal district size is based on the total population divided by the number of districts.

- Redistricting should adhere to Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and interpreted through case law. This criterion requires that minority population clusters be respected in the development of district boundaries. Arbitrary dilution and other discriminatory practices are prohibited.
- Redistricting should adhere to Florida’s Fair Districting Amendment.
- Although deviations should be avoided wherever possible, there must be no more than a 10% overall deviation from the ideal size across districts.

- Geographic criteria
 - Follow major natural and manmade boundaries to the extent possible in defining the boundaries of voting districts.
 - Maintain the integrity of communities of interest based on race, life cycle/age, income, and other community identity characteristics.
 - Maintain district compactness and spatial contiguity. A compact shape for each district will be sought in each redistricting option presented to the city.

- Political criteria
 - Minimize the degree of change in pre-existing patterns of districts, to promote continuity of citizen identification with a district.
 - Consider the interests of sitting commissioners.

Deliverables

No.	Description	Completed by
1	Meeting with Board of Commissioners to discuss the redistricting process and consultation plans	July 31, 2021
2	Four public meetings in diverse locations to discuss the redistricting process and receive public input	August 31, 2021
3	Five meetings with key community leaders to discuss the redistricting process and obtain their input	August 31, 2021
4	Meeting with Board of Commissioners to present results of community outreach and input received from the public	September 30, 2021
5	Public meeting to discuss current District analysis, four map options, and receive input	November 15, 2021
6	Submission of initial report containing current district analysis and four map options for staff review	November 15, 2021
7	Meeting with Board of Commissioners to present draft plans	December 1, 2021
8	Submission of final report with four map options and discussion of the considerations underlying those options for Board of Commissioners review	December 15, 2021

Note: The completion dates for items 5 through 8 assume that the Census data will be released by September 30, 2020. Further delays in release of the data would result in corresponding changes to these dates.

Project Team

The project team consists of four faculty members from the Departments of Urban and Regional Planning and Department of Geosciences at FAU:

- Steven Bourassa, Ph.D. Professor and Chair, Department of Urban and Regional Planning
- James Gammack-Clark, M.A., Ph.D. candidate (ABD), Senior Instructor, Department of Geosciences
- Ronald Schultz, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Department of Geosciences
- Michael Stamm, MURP, Adjunct Instructor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning

Dr. Bourassa will serve as project manager, while Mr. Gammack-Clark and Mr. Stamm will conduct the GIS analysis. Dr. Schultz will serve in an advisory capacity. Mr. Gammack-Clark, Dr. Schultz and Mr. Stamm have substantial experience with City and County redistricting in the South Florida region, while Dr. Bourassa has substantial experience managing applied urban research projects. The team will be assisted by one or more FAU graduate students trained in GIS analysis.

The Project Team's previous redistricting experience includes (we have attempted to provide a complete list of dates for the county and city redistricting projects, but not for the districting analyses):

- County and county-level redistricting:
 - Broward County Board of Commissioners (2001-2002; the project commenced but was not completed as the County decided to go in another direction)
 - Broward County League of Women Voters nine member commission study and recommendation (1985)
 - Broward County School Board, school attendance boundaries (1980s)
 - Okeechobee County (1992)
 - Palm Beach County, Charter Review Committee study (1986)
 - Palm Beach School Board, school attendance boundaries (1980s)
- City redistricting (several of these cities underwent rapid expansion and so required relatively frequent redistricting):
 - City of Boynton Beach (2011)
 - City of Coconut Creek (1983 [initial districts], 1984, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1993, 1997, 2000, 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018)
 - City of Deerfield Beach (1988 [initial districts], 1992, 1996, 1999, 2004)
 - City of Hollywood (2012)
 - City of North Lauderdale (1984 [initial districts], 1989, 1992, 1997, 2001, 2003, 2008, 2012)
 - City of Pembroke Pines (2003)
 - City of Pembroke Park (2002)
 - City of Parkland (1988)

- Town of Lauderdale-by-the-Sea (early 2000s)
- Districting analyses:
 - City of Cooper City
 - City of Greenacres
 - City of North Lauderdale
 - City of Tamarac
 - Palm Beach County Office of the State Attorney, 15th Judicial District Community Based Prosecution Districts (1993-1994)
 - South Broward Drainage District
 - Town of Manalapan
 - Village of Bal Harbour (2010 and 2013; the Board deferred after each analysis)
- Research publication: Ronald R. Schultz, “City Commission Election Districts: (Geographic) Rationality and Reality in a Florida Context,” *The Florida Geographer*, volume 39 (2008), pages 51-70 (a copy is attached to this proposal).
- Mr. Stamm presented to the Broward County Charter Commission on the topic of redistricting.

We have not been involved in any legal cases concerning legislative redistricting, nor are we aware of any legal challenges to redistricting plans on which we were consulted. Dr. Schultz has been a court and administrative hearing qualified expert on population and districting matters.

Cost

The work will be completed for a fixed fee of \$150,000. Except for additional plans and expert testimony, the cost for additional services is \$150 per person hour. The rate for expert testimony is \$250 per person hour. Additional plans will be billed at a fixed fee of \$10,000 each.

Contract and financial management for the project will be handled by the IOG, Sarah Shannon, Executive Director.