



Legislation Text

File #: ID-277-22, Version: 1

City Manager's Office

Reference: Ward Boundary Update Ordinance

To: Mayor Gregory Mills and Members of City Council

Through: Michael Martinez, City Manager

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Date Prepared: July 21 2022

PURPOSE

To amend the ward boundaries to reflect an increase in the population of the City of Brighton between May 2017 (previous ward boundaries update) and July 2022.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA(S)

- Strategic, Supportable Infrastructure
- Financially Responsible
- Facilities, Ammenities, and Open Space
- Safe, Active, Engaged Community
- Recognizable and Well-Planned Community
- Innovative, Data-Driven, Results Focused Government
- Strong Regional Relationships and Partnerships
- Sustainability

BACKGROUND

Attached for your consideration are options for amending the ward boundary map. The maps have been prepared as per the City Charter and Colorado Constitution requirements. The last time the ward boundaries were revised was in 2017.

We have had considerable growth, primarily in Ward 1 and Ward 4 since that time with growth patterns anticipated to trend the City's center of population south and east as development comes online in Ward 3 and Ward 4 over the next several years. The City's current total estimated population is 40,087. Note: this number reflects the number of C.O.'s (certificates of occupancy) issued for housing units since the census was completed in 2020. Therefore, the current estimated population of each **existing ward** is as follows:

- Ward 1: 10,965
- Ward 2: 10,515
- Ward 3: 9,368
- Ward 4: 9,239

The Brighton City Charter requires the division of the City into wards be consistent with the relevant provisions of the state and federal constitution, including that each ward be roughly equal in regards to population. According to Section 4a of Article III of the the Brighton Charter: "The boundaries of the wards established pursuant to this section shall not be changed more often than once in six (6) years, unless change is necessary to conform to

constitutional apportionment requirements. Territory added to the City shall become a part of such ward or wards as may be determined by ordinance, but this shall not prevent apportionment to conform to constitutional requirements.” Due to the requirement of roughly equal populations for all wards, staff can update the ward boundaries within the six year timeframe if the population differs more than five percent from the largest to the smallest ward.

Two scenarios for ward redistricting were presented to Council at the July 19th Study Session. Of the two scenarios, the overall consensus was to bring back Scenario 2 for adoption. First reading is of this ordinance is scheduled for July 26th and second reading for August 2nd.

ATTACHMENTS

- a. Ward Redistricting Ordinance
- b. Ward Map Scenario 2
- c. Staff Presentation