

## City of Reno Redistricting Principles (~~2021~~2023)

- **State and federal regulations** – The redistricting process will abide by applicable state and federal laws, including the Federal Voting Rights Act and the Equal Protection Clause.
- **Equal in population** – The Reno City Charter states that wards must be as nearly equal in population as can be conveniently provided. Because it is impossible to have wards with the same number of people, the Charter allows for up to a five percent variance from ward to ward. ~~If any ward is more than five percent larger based on population, boundaries must be redrawn to balance the population.~~
- **Contiguous** – Wards must be geographically contiguous except for non-contiguous areas that must be ~~included~~ placed based on Charter requirements.
- **Neighborhood integrity** – Wards should allow for representation of general areas of the City having similar or common interests or affinities. Geographic neighborhood and natural boundaries will be accounted for in establishing ward boundaries and being used as divisions when practicable and legal.
- ~~Reflect the core of existing wards~~ – ~~Wards should retain the core of the existing ward to the extent possible. For the purpose of the 2021 redistricting project, wards will be created using the existing ward boundaries as a benchmark.~~
- **Community input** – Input on the redistricting process will be solicited from the public throughout the evaluation and development phases.
- **Implementation date** - For all purposes necessary and appropriate to conduct, administer, and effectuate the 2024 general election, the revised ward boundaries will take effect January 1, 2024 as required by the Charter. For all other purposes, the revised ward map will take effect upon the canvass of returns and declaration of result for the 2024 general election.
- ~~Current councilmembers~~ **Residence related to Council seats with terms expiring in 2024** – The home of record/residence of ~~C~~currently elected councilmember's ~~home of record/residence~~ with terms that extend beyond the 2024 general election will be retained within their ward during redistricting. ~~No deference will be provided to any potential candidate for office.~~
- **Data source** – The 2020 Census counts (PL 94-171) provided by the U.S. Bureau of the Census will be the official source of population counts ~~and demographic information for redistricting.~~ The City may use updated demographic information from the American Community Survey for informational purposes.