



City Manager's Office

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 9, 2023

TO: Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Doug Thornley, City Manager Approved Electronically

FROM: JW Hodge, Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: City of Reno Redistricting Community Engagement and Process Timeline

Section 1.050 of the Reno City Charter requires the City of Reno to be divided into six wards, effective January 1, 2024. The transition from five to six wards, which replaces the at-large Council position with a member representing a sixth ward, is the result of state legislation (Assembly Bill 36) signed into law during the 2017 Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Sixth Ward Timeline

For all purposes necessary and appropriate to conduct, administer, and effectuate the general election in November 2024, this ordinance shall be in effect from and after its passage, adoption and publication in one issue of a newspaper printed and published in the City of Reno.

However, for all other purposes not necessary and appropriate to conduct, administer, and effectuate the general election in November 2024, this Ordinance shall take effect on the date and time the City Council and City Manager meet within the time set forth in NRS 293C.387 after the 2024 general election, and canvass the returns and declare the result.

Community Engagement and Process Timeline

The process for redistricting includes a robust community input and engagement process, and contractual work with an independent data analytics consultant with experience in redistricting. The timeline for this process is heavily driven by new requirements going into the 2024 election cycle. Starting in 2024, the major party process for determining the presidential candidate from Nevada will transition from a caucus to an election. According to the National Voter Registration Act and Nevada Revised Statutes, voter records cannot be changed during the 90-day period before an election. The detailed timeline is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Community Engagement and Process Timeline

Date	Actions
5/10/23	Council approves redistricting process & principles.
5/11/23	Staff begins work with an independent analytics consultant and begins to print citywide postcards to notice citizens the redistricting process has begun.
5/15/23 - 7/14/23	The independent data analytics consultant will conduct a robust process including: in person community engagement events, ongoing public outreach, online districting community map, redistricting plan development, and final recommendations report. Cross departmental internal staff will assist with the process through communications support and alignment with Council priorities and approved principles.
8/9/23	Council presentation, discussion, and potential approval of a City of Reno map containing six wards.
8/23/23	Council ordinance adoption final map identifying six wards.
9/1/23	Maps submitted to the Washoe County Registrar of Voters.
9/2/23 - 11/6/23	Washoe County Registrar of Voters creates the new precincts to match the new Reno city wards, mail notices to all residents of their new precinct and ward, and files them with all appropriate entities per NRS 293.206.
11/7/23	Changing of any voter record, which would include redistricting, must be completed.
1/1/24	New wards take effect to conduct, administer, and effectuate the general election in November 2024.
3/4/24	Candidates for office of City Council file their declarations of candidacy.
TBD	After the 2024 general election, and canvass the returns and declare the result, the sixth ward position will take effect.