



AGENDA

Elections Commission Meeting

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

7:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING

City of Aurora, Colorado

15151 E Alameda Parkway

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - 4.a. 05-17-2022 Election Commission Minutes 2
5. GENERAL BUSINESS
 - 5.a. 2023 Ward Boundary Changes 3
6. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION
7. ADJOURNMENT

**Election Commission
City of Aurora, Colorado
May 17th, 2022
5:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting**

Call to Order: Scott Irvin called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Roll Call: City Clerk Rodriguez called roll

Members Present: Mike Seufert, Lori Gimelshteyn, Bill McCartin, Scott Irvin, Molly Barrett

Staff Present: Kadee Rodriguez, City Clerk; Cecilia Zapata, Deputy City Clerk; Council Member Bergan; Council Member Sundberg; Daniel Krzyzanowski, City Planner; Bill Kever, City Planner; Dave Lathers, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Approval of Agenda: Bill McCartin motions to approve the agenda, seconded by Lori Gimelshteyn. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes: Molly Barrett motions to approve the 05-11-2022 minutes, seconded by Lori Gimelshteyn. Motion passed.

Ward Boundary Changes: Kadee Rodriguez begins reviewing the 2023 Redistricting timeline and provides a calendar for proposed dates and deadlines pertaining to the redistricting. Daniel Krzyzanowski presents the current population trends within the City of Aurora and the 6 ward boundaries. He proceeds to present the 2 proposed scenarios for redistricting which were influenced by maintaining a balanced population across all wards, moving as little citizens as possible, and respecting voting precincts and geographical landmarks. CM Bergan expresses concern towards the two proposed scenarios, and commissioners request additional information pertaining to future developments. Discussion is had and questions from the commissioners and council members are answered. Kadee Rodriguez also provides background information in regards to the issue that happened in Adams County and Arapahoe County in 2019, so that the issue does not arise again.

Legislative Update: Kadee Rodriguez provides the legislative update and a link to proposed election rules from the Secretary of State office. She explains that additional information will be provided to the Commission following a meeting with Arapahoe County regarding voting and ward boundaries. Scott Irvin requests that the discussion on the legislative update be tabled for the next meeting.

Miscellaneous Items: None.

Adjournment: Motion by Bill McCartin to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Molly Barrett. The meeting is adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Scott Irvin, Chair

City of Aurora

2023 WARD BOUNDARY CHANGES

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Kadee Rodriguez, City Clerk
Cecilia Zapata, Deputy City Clerk
Dave Lathers, Senior Assistant City Attorney
Julie Patterson, Senior Communications Strategist

Daniel Krzyzanowski, Planning Supervisor
Andrea Barnes, Planner II
Marisa Noble, Planner
William Keever, GIS Manager

General Information

Overview

- Wards are reviewed prior to regular municipal elections held in years ending with '3' and '9'. – *Section 54-5 City Code*
- New ward boundaries must be completed no later than 180 days prior to the next regular municipal election. – *Article III, Section 3-4 City Charter*
- Review is done by Election Commission which makes recommendation to City Council. – *Article II, Section 2-3 City Charter*
- Ward boundary changes are adopted by ordinance.
- City staff creates new ward maps.
- Changes are sent to county clerks and the residents affected.

Criteria

Population Estimate

The population is determined by using the Census Bureau's Redistricting Count for Colorado and the certificates of occupancy issued by Aurora.

Wards

1. Divided into six wards containing approximately the same number of people.
2. There should be between a 5% to 10% deviation between the least and most populous wards.
3. Sitting council members are not moved outside their ward.
4. Impact as few residents as possible.

Boundaries

1. Use natural or man-made boundaries, such as ditches and streets.
2. Maintain whole county precincts where possible. The only exception would be where a county precinct contains both a municipal and non-municipal portion.
3. Whenever a common boundary between wards lies in any public street or right-of-way, the boundary goes to the centerline of the street.

2023 Redistricting

Calendar

March 22, 2022	M&F Committee Meeting - Informal presentation
March 31, 2022	Population estimate
April 6, 2022	Election Commission Meeting – Review updated information and schedule meeting with Ward Council Members
April 26, 2022	M&F Committee Meeting – Updated presentation with revised schedule and new population estimates
May 11 & 17, 2022	Election Commission Meetings – Meet with Ward Council Members to discuss possible changes
June 28, 2022	M&F Committee Meeting – Update on process
June – August	Public Comment Meetings
August 17, 2022	Election Commission – Approves a plan to recommend to Council
August 23, 2022	M&F Committee Meeting – Initial review of approved plan
September 27, 2022	M&F Committee Meeting - Final review of approved plan (if needed)
October 17, 2022	Study Session - The new ward boundaries are presented for Council’s approval
October 24, 2022	Council Meeting - The new boundaries are presented for first reading
November 14, 2022	Council Meeting - The new boundaries are presented for final approval
November 2022	The Counties are notified of the adopted changes to the ward boundaries
May 11, 2023	Deadline for new ward boundaries to be completed
November 7, 2023	Regular Municipal Election

Public Comment

Public Comment Meetings

June 1, 2022	Moorhead Recreation Center (Ward I) – Patio View Room
June 15, 2022	Beck Recreation Center (Ward II) – Ponderosa Room
June 29, 2022	Central Library (Ward III) – Large Community Room
July 13, 2022	Colorado Early Colleges (Ward IV)
July 27, 2022	Central Recreation Center (Ward V)
August 3, 2022	Tallyn’s Reach Library (Ward VI) – TR Community Room

Engage Aurora

Residents are invited to provide comments, add input on maps and ask questions online at EngageAurora.org/Redistricting from June 1 through Aug. 3.

The website will offer information on the redistricting process and details about proposed changes, including maps showing how the wards might be adjusted to accommodate changes in the city’s population and the new ward populations should the changes be approved.

Population Estimate

Total Population: 402,961

Target Ward Population: 67,160

	Census Population	CO'ed Units	Estimated New Population	Total Ward Estimate	+/-	%
Ward I	61,520	1,205	3,410	64,930	-2,230	-3.3%
Ward II	65,192	2,268	6,418	71,627	4,467	6.7%
Ward III	64,026	721	2,040	66,066	-1,094	-1.6%
Ward IV	65,553	81	229	65,782	-1,378	-2.1%
Ward V	59,457	58	164	59,621	-7,539	-11.2%
Ward VI	70,571	1,546	4,375	74,933	7,773	11.6%
Total	386,319	5,879	16,638	402,961		

Calculating the Ward Population

- **Census Population** - Census Bureau's Redistricting Count for Colorado, as of April 1, 2020.
- **CO'ed Units** - All of the certificates of occupancy the city issued from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2022.
- **Estimated New Population** - Determined by using the Census Bureau's average household size estimate (2.82) multiplied by the CO'ed units
- **Total Ward Estimate** – Determined by adding the April 1, 2020 Census Bureau's count and the estimated population increase from the CO'ed units.

Deviation from Target Population

- **Target Ward Population** - 1/6 of the Total Population.
- **+/- and %** - Deviation from the Target Ward Population.

City Code Section 54-5

- a) The city is divided into six wards, numbered consecutively as I, II, III, IV, V and VI. The boundaries of each ward shall be depicted and set forth on the official ward map of the City, a copy of which is on file in the office of the city clerk and incorporated by reference into this chapter. In determining the boundaries established for each ward, whenever a common boundary between wards lies in any public street or right-of-way, the boundary of such wards shall be deemed to go to the centerline of the street.
- b) Ward boundaries within the city shall be reviewed for election years ending in "3" and "9" using the United States Census Data and Community Surveys which update the census data, and, if necessary, the boundaries shall be revised or altered in order to ensure that wards are contiguous, compact, and have approximately the same number of residents.
- c) In the event of significant changes to the population in years ending in numbers other than "3" and "9", the election commission may review the ward boundaries and make recommendations to city council.
- d) In addition to the revisions made to the ward boundaries pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, ward boundaries may be revised or altered as necessary to bring them into conformance with county precinct boundaries.
- e) Notwithstanding any City Code provision(s) to the contrary, an otherwise qualified individual who fails to meet the one-year registered elector and residency status applicable to ward council member elections, shall nevertheless be eligible to run for the office of ward council member when the change in ward boundaries occurs solely as a result of the City Code semi-decennial required ward boundary adjustment.