

Priorities Committee Meeting_Jun18_2019

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE**2019 Ward Boundary Review****Report Purpose**

To provide ward boundary options

Our Prioritized Strategic Goals

Governance Requirement

Goal 7 - Provide opportunities for public engagement and communication

Report

Through the passing of the Ward Boundary Review Policy GOV-002-032, Council aims to ensure equal and effective representation. This representation is fundamental to any democratic system and is the primary goal for the ward boundary review.

Using the 2018 census results, a deviation exceeding the +25% recommended deviation for population was identified in the current Ward 4. Enclosure 1 contains a map of the current urban wards and a map of the current rural wards. Each map contains the current population, eligible voters and the deviation from the mean for both population and eligible voters.

Applying the criteria in Council's Ward Boundary Review Policy, Administration is presenting four urban ward options that are found in Enclosure 2. The colours on the legend of the maps are for the proposed wards. The maps contain the population, deviation from the population mean, eligible voters and the deviation from the eligible voter mean. The current ward boundaries are overlaid in yellow highlighting.

Enclosure 3 contains a scoring matrix that was used to measure the policy criteria ranked and weighted by order of importance. Options 1 and 2 are tied, both receiving 26 out of 28 possible points. Option 3 has scored 21 out of 28 possible points followed by Option 4 which has scored 18 out of 28 possible points.

Enclosure 4 contains one option for the rural wards. It is important to note that the current rural wards comply with the policy; however the map has been included as an option to create more blocked shaped wards and a better alignment with geographical features i.e. Wye Road is used as the boundary up to Range Road 213. Enclosure 5 contains the scoring matrix for the rural option. The option is desirable for election planning purposes and will reduce confusion for electors in some rural voting stations.

Options for Priorities Committee consideration:

1. Make a recommendation to Council with the preferred urban and rural option to be used for the Ward Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw.
2. Refer to the Community Living Advisory Committee and direct them to review the ward boundary options and make a recommendation to Council.

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Council and Committee History

January 29, 2019	Priorities Committee was updated on the Ward Boundary Review
October 23, 2018	Priorities Committee, Report for Information, Municipal Census Update and Summary of 2018 Results
June 21, 2016	Council directed Administration to conduct a ward boundary review following the 2018 municipal census and report back to Council by the end of Q1 2019
April 5, 2016	Council approved GOV-002-032: Ward Boundary Review Policy

Other Impacts

Policy: GOV-002-032: Ward Boundary Review Policy

Legislative/Legal: The *Municipal Government Act* and the *Local Authorities Election Act* govern processes associated with municipal elections. The legislation allows municipalities to establish electoral boundaries for municipal elections and to determine the number of councillors for each ward.

Interdepartmental: GIS Branch of Information Technology, Planning and Development Services, Communications.

Master Plan/Framework:

Communication Plan n/a

Enclosures

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|---|---|
| 1 | Current Ward Boundaries |
| 2 | Urban Ward Boundary Options 1 - 4 |
| 3 | Scoring Matrix for Urban Ward Boundary Options |
| 4 | Ward Boundary Rural Option |
| 5 | Scoring Matrix for Rural Ward Boundary Option |
| 6 | 2019 Ward Boundary Review PowerPoint Presentation |