Loudoun County, Virginia



www.loudoun.gov

Office of the County Administrator, Public Affairs and Communications 1 Harrison Street SE, P.O. Box 7000, Leesburg, VA 20177-7000 703-777-0113 • Fax 703-771-5841

For Immediate ReleaseMedia Contact:Mary Frances Forcier, Deputy Public Affairs and Communications OfficerOctober 12, 2021703-737-8771, MaryFrances.Forcier@loudoun.gov

Loudoun County Launches Local Redistricting Hub, Providing Public Access to Maps and Data

Loudoun County has launched its <u>Local Redistricting Hub</u>, which provides access to interactive maps and geographic data important for public participation in the redistricting process.

The redistricting hub will be updated on a rolling basis to include additional interactive maps, data, and training materials for the public.

Redistricting is the process of redrawing the boundaries of districts that elect representatives who serve specific geographic areas. The local redistricting process determines which neighborhoods and communities are grouped together into a district for purposes of electing board members to the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors and School Board.

By making sure districts have approximately the same number of people, redistricting can help to ensure residents have equal representation on the Board of Supervisors and School Board. It also affects for whom residents vote and where they vote, based on how the local electoral boundaries are drawn.

In June 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopted guidelines for the local redistricting process, including keeping "communities of interest" intact to the extent possible within a single supervisorial district. Communities of interest can include neighborhoods or any geographically defined group of people living in an area who share similar social, cultural, and economic interests; for example, homeowners associations, school boundaries, or other issues that make a community unique. To identify specific "communities of interest" within the county, or to submit general comments about the redistricting process, residents are encouraged to use this comment form.

County staff are currently developing possible local redistricting scenarios, which will be brought to the Board of Supervisors for consideration at its October 19, 2021, business meeting. During November, the public will have an opportunity to comment specifically on those staff-developed scenarios or to use them as a starting point to develop and submit their own plans for consideration. An online mapping tool, which will be available on the redistricting hub, will open to the public on November 1 for use in this process.

The Board of Supervisors is expected to adopt the final plan in May 2022.

For more information, or to sign up for project updates, visit loudoun.gov/redistricting.