

Issue Analysis Form



Date: August 10, 2021
Item: Resolution in Support of Changing to Single Member Election Districts
Lead Department(s): County Attorney
Contact Person(s): Dan Whitten

Description and Current Status

Prince George County must redistrict in 2021 after receiving the results from the 2020 Census. The Census Bureau anticipates data needed to begin redistricting will be released beginning August 16, 2021. The final redistricting data toolkit will be delivered by the Census Bureau by September 30, 2021.

Virginia Code Section 15.2-1211 gives power to the Board of Supervisors to "redistrict the county into magisterial districts, change the boundaries of existing districts, change the name of any district, or increase or diminish the number of districts".

Virginia Code Section 24.2-304.1 allows the Board of Supervisors to change from at-large districts to single-member districts.

After proper advertisement of a public hearing the Board of Supervisors can adopt an ordinance to change from at-large districts to single member districts and amend the County Code Chapter 30 ("Elections") to increase the number of election districts from two to five.

A motion approving a Resolution in support of changing to single member election districts is requested. As staff begins the redistricting process, the resolution will give guidance to staff on the desire of the Board to switch to single member districts.

Sample Motion: I move that the Board approve the attached resolution supporting the change to single member election districts.

Government Path

- Does this require IDA action? Yes No
- Does this require BZA action? Yes No
- Does This require Planning Commission Action? Yes No
- Does this require Board of Supervisors action? Yes No
- Does this require a public hearing? Yes No
- If so, before what date? Yes No

Fiscal Impact Statement

County Impact

Notes

Board of Supervisors
County of Prince George, Virginia

Resolution

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Prince George held in the Boardroom, Third Floor, County Administration Building, 6602 Courts Drive, Prince George, Virginia, this 10th day of August, 2021:

Present:

Floyd M. Brown, Jr., Chairman
Marlene J. Waymack, Vice Chair
Alan R. Carmichael
Donald Hunter
T. J. Webb

Vote:

A-9

On motion of _____, seconded by _____, which carried by a vote of _____ in favor and _____ opposed, the following Resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION: IN SUPPORT OF CHANGING TO SINGLE MEMBER ELECTION DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 15.2-1211 states “County magisterial district boundary lines and names shall be as the governing bodies may establish”;

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 15.2-1211 gives power to the Board of Supervisors to “redistrict the county into magisterial districts, change the boundaries of existing districts, change the name of any district, or increase or diminish the number of districts”;

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 24.2-304.1 contains the authority for the Board of Supervisors to change from at-large districts to single-member districts;

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors can adopt an ordinance after a properly advertised public hearing to change from at-large districts to single-member districts;

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors can approve amendments to County Code Chapter 30 (“Elections”) to increase the number of election districts from two to five and to change from at-large districts to single-member districts;

WHEREAS, since Prince George County must redistrict in 2021, it would be appropriate to increase the number of election districts at the same time that the redistricting is approved by the Board of Supervisors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince George County Board of Supervisors APPROVES the intent of the Board of Supervisors to amend County Code Chapter 30 (“Elections”) to increase the number of election districts from two to five and to change from at-large districts to single-member districts at the same time that the Board of Supervisors approves the mandated redistricting ordinance.

A Copy Teste:

Percy C. Ashcraft
County Administrator