

# Issue Analysis Form

**Date:** September 28, 2021  
**Item:** Public Hearing 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 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 resolution in support of changing to single member election districts is attached. 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.

Even if the resolution is approved, the Board will still need to amend the County Code to create the single member districts.

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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 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021:

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Present:

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

Vote:

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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 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;

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the Board to give direction to staff to plan for single member districts as they begin the redistricting process;

**WHEREAS**, the Board must still amend the County Code to transition to single member districts.

**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:

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Percy C. Ashcraft  
County Administrator

NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
HEARING  
COUNTY OF PRINCE  
GEORGE

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Prince George Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on September 28, 2021 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room, Third Floor of the County Administration Building, 6602 Courts Drive, Prince George, Virginia, (located at the intersection of Laurel Springs Road and Courts Drive in the County Government Complex) pursuant to § 15.2-1427, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, to consider:

Public Input on Whether to  
Change to Single Member  
Election Districts.

All interested persons shall  
be given an opportunity to  
be heard.

Percy C. Ashcraft  
County Administrator