

Steering Committee

Members

Councilwoman Ella Barber
Margie Vactor
Irene Lawson
Roosevelt Morris
Shawana Lamb

City of Midway, Florida Redistricting Project Workshop

October 23, 2008

City Hall

7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00. The meeting was opened with prayer and pledge by Councilwoman Ella Barber.

Project Progress Review and Current Status - Presented by Linda Dilworth

Deliverable	Progress Status	Projected Completion Date
1. KMR's Redistricting Project Team Assembled	Completed	August 21, 2008
2. Prepare Redistricting Project Work Plan	Completed	August 28, 2008
3. Prepare and attend up to four (4) workshop sessions with members of the redistricting steering committee and key stakeholders and make appearances before City Council	1 st Workshop – Sept. 25 2 nd Workshop – Oct. 9 3 rd Workshop - Oct. 23 4 th Workshop conducted with Deliverable 12	September 18 – November 15, 2008
4. Conduct redistricting interviews with City Council members and group interviews with interested citizens and stakeholders	Completed	September 27, 2008
5. Procure and utilize a State of Florida recognized and proven software application for redistricting purposes	Completed	September 2, 2008
6. Obtain Midway voting pattern and socioeconomic data and perform redistricting analysis, calculations and considerations	Completed	October 15, 2008
7. Plan and conduct redistricting community outreach and education activities	▪ Mailing in Progress ▪ Meetings Oct. 25 & 28	On-Going
8. Provide City of Midway community redistricting updates on the City's website	In Progress	On-Going
9. Prepare and conduct a scenarios mapping public hearing for Midway officials, staff, citizens, businesses and interested persons	In Progress	October 31, 2008
10. Develop process and provide for receipt of public map submissions	Completed	October 31, 2008
11. Develop preliminary redistricting plan options	In Progress	November 15, 2008
12. Plan and conduct a post-map public hearing for Midway officials, staff, citizens, businesses and interested persons		November 15, 2008
13. Finalize City of Midway Redistricting Plan		November 18, 2008
14. File Redistricting Plan with City Clerk and Gadsden County Supervisor of Elections		November 21, 2008

Redistricting Mapping Considerations and Options Update Presented by Lance De-Haven Smith

- Review

There was a review of the past meetings for those who were not present. Lance reviewed populations, current census blocks, and updating the census block. Lance also pointed out that an area which was missing on the map at the last meeting was added. Lance re-emphasized the difficulty in creating districts which did not have two council members living in at least one district.

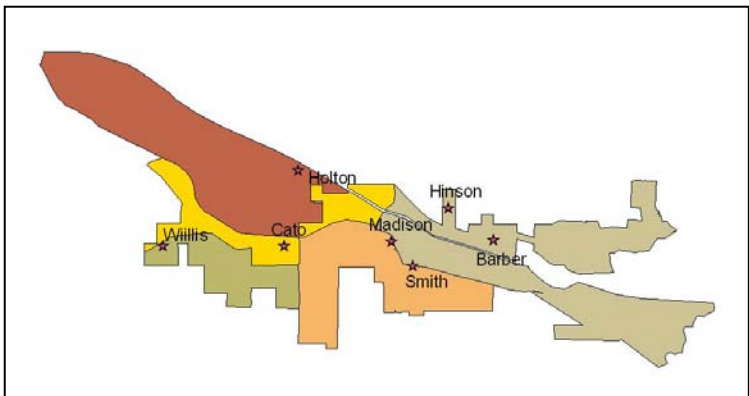
There was brief discussion about adding another district which would be considered district 6, in the area represented by Councilman-at-large Mr. Holton. It was resolved that the districts should remain at 5 as there should be an odd number of districts.

- Plan 1

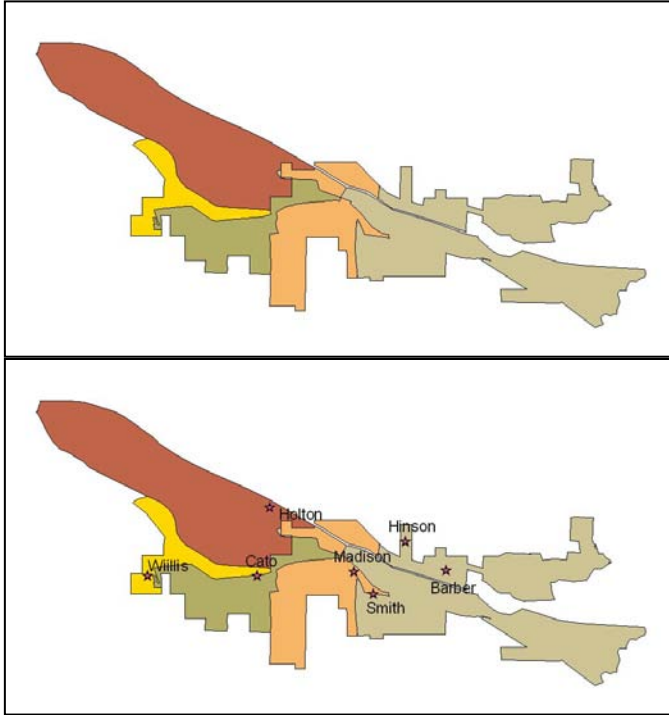
Lance noted that this plan seems to be the most logical of the plans because the districts are the most contiguous.

- Discussion on Plan 1

In this plan council members Smith and Madison are in the same district. The committee commented that Council members Holton and Smith would be running at the same time which leads to the possibility that Smith could run at large and Holton could run in his district eliminating the overlap in representation.



- Plan 2



- Plan 3



- Discussion on Redistricting Plans

The council also discovered that the wrong address was provided for Council Member Madison which was corrected. All other addresses were confirmed.

Point was raised that there is a large probability that the white population in Midway has grown substantially especially in the Orion's point area.

Question was raised whether the redistricting must be voted and how that will be handled and whether it is a charter change.

The concern was raised that there is a DCA deadline that must be met and questions raised as to how the redistricting will be completed in time.

Committee emphasized that there will definitely need to be redistricting in 2010 due to population growth

- Final Conclusion of Redistricting Updates

Plan 1 was preferred

Change address of Council Member Madison

Check on voting issue including referendum vote

Confirm DCA deadline

KMR will consult with attorneys versed in municipal law and will need to consult with the Midway Legal Council as well.

Restatement of Process for Public Map Submissions & Community Outreach and Education Update

Presented by Linda Dilworth in the absence of Leslie Steele

- A letter is being sent out informing Midway's citizens of the two public meeting that will be held on October 25 and October 28. We are also asking each commissioner to personally ask five members of their communities to attend one of the meetings.
- The Citizen Letter was also e-mailed to the Rustling Pine Homeowners Association E-mail Group. If anyone has the e-mail addresses of other HOA's please e-mail those addresses to Leslie Steele at: leslie@steele-communications.com

- A press release informing the public about the meetings was sent to the Havana Herald, Gadsden County Times, WTXL, WCTV and the Tallahassee Democrat on Tuesday.
- The Midway Redistricting Web site will be complete on tomorrow and posted on the World Wide Web for citizens to view.
- We are working on a letter to the editor for the Gadsden County Times, Havana Herald and Tallahassee Democrat telling about how important citizen participation in the process is.
- Citizen Letter:

October 20, 2008

Dear Citizen

Midway is a growing City in Gadsden County and over the last five years the City has experienced a tremendous amount of growth, welcomed hundreds of new citizens and become an integral part of the success of the County. As a result of that growth, the City now has to redraw its political boundaries through a redistricting process.

In an effort to ensure that you are involved in this very important process we will be holding two workshops to solicit your input on October 25, 2008 and October 28, 2008. Both meetings will be held at the Midway City Fire Station. The meeting on October 25 will take place from 9:00am until noon and the October 28 meeting will take place from 7:00pm until 9:00pm.

Please come with your ideas, suggestions and requested input to ensure that our citizens are well represented by members of the Redistricting Committee and City Council. The U.S. and state constitutions require that each congressional, legislative and local district be represented by an equal number of people to ensure fair distribution of political power. Births, deaths and migration contribute to statewide and district population shifts. Redistricting adjusts political boundaries to reflect these changes.

We look forward to seeing you there

Sincerely

Councilwoman Ella Barber
Redistricting Committee Chair

Questions

Committee asked that the next set of redistricting plans we delivered/email before the next meeting for early review. Lance will provide the plans by October 30, 2008.

Next Meeting

November 13, 2008: 6:30-7:30 Workshop, 7:30-8:30 Special Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.