

1 **SEATTLE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

2 A RESOLUTION adopting a Districting Plan for the City of Seattle.

3 WHEREAS, RCW 29A.76.010 requires the City to prepare a redistricting plan for its council
4 districts by November 15, 2022; and

5 WHEREAS, the Seattle Redistricting Commission (Commission) was appointed pursuant to
6 Article IV, Section 2, Subdivision D(1) of the Seattle City Charter; and

7 WHEREAS, on December 14, 2021 the Commission appointed King County GIS Center as its
8 “districting master” (Districting Consultant) pursuant to Article IV, Section 2,
9 Subdivision D(2) of the Seattle City Charter; and

10 WHEREAS, on February 15, 2022 the Districting Consultant submitted four options for a district
11 plan to the Commission pursuant to Article IV, Section 2, Subdivision D(4) of the Seattle
12 City Charter; and

13 WHEREAS, the Commission conducted a public outreach and engagement period exceeding
14 Charter requirements from October 2021 to November 2022 with sample maps and
15 educational redistricting material; and

16 WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2, Subdivision D(2) of the Seattle City Charter the
17 Commission held a public forum in each district; and

18 WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2, Subdivision D(4) of the Seattle City Charter the
19 Commission approved by majority vote a draft district proposal on August 2, 2022, and
20 published the draft proposal on August 3, 2022; and

21 WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 29A.76.010(5)(a), the Commission held a meeting including
22 notice and comment on August 9, 2022, which was within ten days of publishing the
23 draft plan and more than one week before adopting the plan; and

1 WHEREAS, the Commission held three additional public forums after publishing the draft plan;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 29A.76.010(5)(b) the Commission amended the draft plan in
4 response to public input on August 9, 2022, September 27, 2022, October 18, 2022, and
5 October 31, 2022, and has resubmitted the amended draft plan for additional public
6 comment; NOW, THEREFORE,

7 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SEATTLE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION AS**
8 **FOLLOWS:**

9 Section 1. The Redistricting Commission finds and declares that:

10 A. According to the results of the 2020 U.S. Census the total population of the City of
11 Seattle (City) grew from 608,660 to 737,015.:

12 1. District 1’s population grew from 86,785 to 99,824, (as adjusted pursuant to
13 RCW 44.05.140);

14 2. District 2’s population grew from 87,268 to 99,483 (as adjusted pursuant to
15 RCW 44.05.140);

16 3. District 3’s population grew from 86,558 to 107,219 (as adjusted pursuant to
17 RCW 44.05.140);

18 4. District 4’s population grew from 87,677 to 106,155 (as adjusted pursuant to
19 RCW 44.05.140);

20 5. District 5’s population grew from 86,950 to 99,207 (as adjusted pursuant to
21 RCW 44.05.140);

22 6 District 6’s population grew from 86,771 to 102,811 (as adjusted pursuant to
23 RCW 44.05.140); and

1 7. District 7’s population grew from 86,651 to 123,396 (as adjusted pursuant to
2 RCW 44.05.140).

3 B. In order to meet the requirement of Article IV, Section 2, Subdivision D(3) of the
4 Seattle City Charter that the population of the largest district shall exceed the population of the
5 smallest district by no more than 1%, the boundaries of Districts 1, 2, 5, and 6 must expand to
6 increase their populations, and the boundaries of Districts 3, 4, and 7 must contract to decrease
7 their populations. The population goal for each district is 105,442. The districts adopted by this
8 Resolution have the following population based on the 2020 Census as adjusted:

9 District 1 105, 848

10 District 2 105, 496

11 District 3 105, 032

12 District 4 105, 614

13 District 5 105, 150

14 District 6 105,884

15 District 7 105,071

16 These districts achieve a variance of 0.81%, meeting the requirement contained in
17 Article IV, Section 2, Subdivision D(3) of the Seattle City Charter.

18 C. District 1’s western boundary is Puget Sound, its southern boundary is the Seattle City
19 Limit, and much of its northern boundary is Elliott Bay; therefore, the district can only expand to
20 the east and to the north. The Commission moved the boundary between District 1 and District 2
21 east to Interstate 5 from the City Limit until Dearborn Street to add population to District 1, align
22 with a significant geographic boundary, and reflect community input from both sides of the
23 boundary.

1 D. The Commission drew the remaining boundary between District 1 and District 2
2 around Chinatown International District (CID) and Yesler Terrace in response to the CID and
3 Yesler Terrace communities' strong expressed desire to be joined with the surrounding
4 neighborhoods in District 2 that together present one community of interest, and to keep their
5 neighborhoods whole. After soliciting public comment, the Commission has found that its
6 proposal to draw the district boundary along the CID and Yesler Terrace neighborhood lines has
7 received sustained and overwhelming public support across the City.

8 E. After receiving input from the Pioneer Square community and consulting the Pioneer
9 Square historic preservation map and the Metropolitan Improvement District map, the
10 Commission selected the northern border of the Pioneer Square neighborhood as the boundary
11 between District 1 and District 7 in order to add sufficient population to District 1 while keeping
12 the neighborhood of Pioneer Square together in one district.

13 F. District 2's eastern boundary is Lake Washington and southern boundary is the Seattle
14 City Limit; therefore, the district could only expand to the west and to the north. Having
15 established the boundary between District 1 and District 2 to follow north along Interstate 5 and
16 to include the CID and Yesler Terrace in District 2, the Commission moved the border between
17 District 2 and District 3 north in order for District 2 to gain population.

18 G. In choosing where to set the boundary between District 2 and 3, The Commission
19 listened to community interest in keeping the Central District together as a community of interest
20 tied together by culture, historic gentrification, issues of affordable housing, and lack of
21 investment in community spaces and businesses. The Commission heard from the Community
22 how this community of interest extended to the area surrounding the Northwest African
23 American Museum. Accordingly, the Commission set the boundary to follow the geographic and
24 arterial boundaries of Interstate 90, Martin Luther King Junior Way S., Rainier Avenue S., and

1 12th Avenue in consideration of the area’s shared community with and historical ties to the
2 Central District.

3 H. The Commission entertained various proposals for the border between Districts 3 and
4 4 and ultimately chose the Lake Washington Ship Canal as the boundary to follow a recognized
5 waterway, follow a previous boundary, and honor public input from both districts to keep
6 District 3 south of the Ship Canal and keep District 4 north of the Ship Canal.

7 I. In response to community feedback, the Commission kept the Eastlake neighborhood
8 together in one district. In order to keep District 3 south of the ship canal and to ensure a
9 balanced population between districts, the Commission moved the Eastlake neighborhood from
10 District 4 to District 3 and drew the boundary between District 3 and District 7 to reflect the
11 neighborhood’s preferred description of its boundaries, and to follow the geographic boundary of
12 Interstate 5, connecting to 9th Avenue and 8th Avenue in order to balance district population.

13 J. The Commission maintained the boundary between District 4 and District 6 at Aurora
14 Avenue N., N. 50th Street, and Interstate 5 to follow existing boundaries and in response to input
15 from the Wallingford Community Council to keep residents east of Aurora Avenue in District 4
16 and west of Aurora Avenue in District 6. The boundary keeps the Wallingford Urban Village
17 together in District 4.

18 K. To balance District 4’s population, the Commission moved a portion of the boundary
19 between District 4 and District 5 north from NE 85th Street to NE 95th street between Lake City
20 Way NE and 45th Avenue NE. This line follows the City of Seattle Neighborhood Map for
21 Wedgewood’s boundaries and keeps the neighborhood together.

22 L. District 5’s Northern boundary is the Seattle City Limit, its eastern boundary is Lake
23 Washington, and its western boundary is Puget Sound; therefore, District 5 can only expand to
24 the south. The commission listened to community feedback to keep the communities of

1 Northgate, Lake City, and Aurora together as they share common interests such as a lack of
2 sidewalks north of 85th Street. Accordingly, the Commission drew District 5's southern boundary
3 to follow N. 85th Street where practical. To add needed population to District 5, the Commission
4 moved all of Carkeek Park into District 5 and added portions of Blue Ridge and Crown Hill.

5 M. To balance the populations of Districts 6 and 7 with the rest of the City's districts,
6 District 6 needs to expand, and District 7 needs to contract significantly. District 7 has
7 experienced rapid growth in its Downtown and South Lake Union neighborhoods in the last ten
8 years. In order to balance the population between District 6 and District 7, and in an effort reduce
9 unnecessary disruption to Magnolia's business district and residential areas, the Commission
10 drew the boundary between District 6 and District 7 to follow the Lake Washington Ship Canal,
11 15th Avenue W., W. Emerson Street and the line connecting W. Emerson Street sections, 27th
12 Place W., W. Manor Place, 28th Avenue W., W. Howe Street, and 32nd Avenue W.

13 The Commission received community feedback about the importance of keeping
14 Magnolia whole and ensuring a sufficient voice in their representation, particularly regarding
15 transportation issues such as maintaining the three bridges that connect Magnolia to the rest of
16 the City. The Commission listened to such concerns and was interested in alternatives. The
17 Commission dedicated over three months to looking for alternatives that kept Magnolia whole
18 without sacrificing other Charter criteria, but could not find one in time; ultimately, the
19 Commission finds that none of the alternative proposals did a demonstrably better job of meeting
20 the criteria articulated in Article IV, Section 2, Subdivision D(3) of the Seattle City Charter,
21 when considering the district map as a whole, than the map it adopts today.

22 Section 2. In accordance with Article IV, Section 2, Subdivision D(4) of the Seattle City
23 Charter, the districting plan attached to this resolution is adopted.

1 Section 3. The Commission authorizes and requests the Department of Neighborhoods to
2 file the districting plan with the Seattle City Clerk no later than November 10, 2022, and
3 authorizes and requests the Seattle City Clerk to take all necessary steps to file the districting
4 plan with the King County Auditor and the Director of King County Elections no later than
5 November 15, 2022.

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Adopted by the Seattle Redistricting Commission the 8th day of November, 2022.



Chair Patience Malaba of the Seattle Redistricting
Commission

Attachment: 2022 Final District Plan