



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

MEETING DATE: March 21, 2022

PREPARED BY: Administration

AGENDA ITEM: Resolution No. 22-057 establishing precinct boundaries and designating polling places

PREVIOUS ACTIONS:

None.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-057 establishing precinct boundaries within the City of Maple Grove and designating polling locations.

COMMENTS:

The Minnesota Judicial Branch Special Redistricting Panel issued the new U.S. congressional and house and state legislative boundaries for Minnesota. The City of Maple Grove remains in U.S. Congressional District 3; however, the redistricting plan does renumber most of the senate and house districts throughout the state. The City of Maple Grove is now included in Minnesota House Districts 37A (western portion of the city) and 37B (eastern two-thirds of the city) as well as a new district 42A, which is a tiny portion of the city that includes residents south of Bass Lake Road and west of Vicksburg Lane.

Redistricting takes place every 10 years following the release of U.S. Census data with the goal of equalizing population distribution at various representative levels. Maple Grove's 2020 census population is now 70,253. The population after the 2010 census was 61,567 and the population after the 2000 census was 50,365.

Once the redistricting plan was released on February 15, the city's precincts needed modification due to the slight changes in legislative lines. Key factors that control precinct boundaries are:

- Precinct boundaries cannot cross congressional or legislative lines.
- There must be a polling place for each precinct. The polling place must be located within the boundaries of the precinct or within one mile of one of the boundaries.
- Polling places must meet Americans with Disabilities Act requirements for access.

While the proposed 2022 City of Maple Grove Redistricting Plan retains an even population distribution in all precincts, the precinct count will be reduced to 15 (from 24). The elimination of nine precincts is based on the continuing trend for absentee voting, which greatly reduces the number of Election Day voters in polling places. In 2020, the city experienced an 89.05% turnout rate with a total of 45,344 voters. Of the total number of voters, 16,116 people voted on Election Day while 29,228 voted absentee (in-person or by mail) prior to Election Day. Going forward, Hennepin County has conservatively projected that 50% of eligible voters will vote absentee.

All precincts in the attached plan have been examined to ensure facilities are accessible for voters as well as appropriate in size to accommodate voter population. Other considerations included the number of eligible voters (18+ population) and anticipated future growth over the next 10 years.

Staff recommends approval of the 2022 City of Maple Grove Redistricting Plan establishing precinct boundaries and designating polling places.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Resolution No. 22-057

Attachment B – Precinct map