Montgomery County Redistricting Commission

The process to map new Council districts for future Council elections
Why is a new map of Council districts needed?

- Beginning in 2022, the number of Council districts will increase from 5 districts to 7 districts.
- The new districts must be drawn based on the current (2020) population.
- The Council Charter (the County’s Constitution) requires redistricting every 10 years... the last redistricting was approved in 2011.
What is the Commission’s mission

- Recommend to the Council the adoption of a map of 7 Council Districts from which voters in those district will have the opportunity to cast ballots for one District Councilmember and 4 at-large Councilmembers. The Commission must report to the Council by November 15, 2021.

- The Districts must be substantially equal in population...approximately 150,000 residents in each district.

- Districts should be compact and contiguous ... a district may not be composed of “islands” of land area.

Ethnic and racial groups must be identified to avoid diminishing their voting rights by either packing those populations in a single district or splitting those populations in a manner that dilutes their impact on elections.
Commission “Ground Rules” for Mapping

- **Equal Population**: Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment requires that the legislative districts across states be equal in population.

- **Compactness**: Having the minimum distance between all the parts of a constituency (a circle, square or a hexagon is the most compact district).

- **Contiguity**: All parts of a district being connected at some point with the rest of the district.

- **Minority Representation**: Consideration of areas of population with majority of minorities.

- **Preservation of Counties and other Political Subdivisions**: This refers to not crossing county, city, or town, boundaries when drawing districts.

- **Preservation of Communities of Interest**: Geographical areas, such as neighborhoods of a city or regions of a state, where the residents have common political interests that do not necessarily coincide with the boundaries of a political subdivision, such as a city or county.
Planning Department is expected to receive 2020 census data from the State the week of September 7th.

Planning staff expect to have the mapping tool for Commissioners updated with the 2020 census data ready for use by Commissioner’s on September 13th.

For the Public – the Census Bureau Announces Release Date for Easier-to-Use Formats for Redistricting Data

The U.S. Census Bureau will release easier-to-use formats of the 2020 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File on September 16.

Also on September 16, redistricting data will be available through the Census Bureau’s primary data dissemination tool, data.census.gov. The Census Bureau will also deliver an easy-to-use toolkit of DVDs and flash drives to state officials and public bodies responsible for their state’s legislative apportionment or districting.

These data — first released August 12 — are currently available in a legacy format on the Census Bureau’s FTP site. These data are also available through various data visualizations.
How can you help?

- What communities should be located in a single district?
- What communities should be in separate districts?
- Are there boundaries between district that you would recommend?

Information on Commission:

- The Redistricting Commission will meet September 23 and every Wednesday in October at 5:00pm.
- Meetings are Livestreamed on the Council FaceBook page (you do not need a FaceBook account to view)
- Redistricting Commission webpage for meeting notice, agenda and minutes can be found at: https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/BCC/redistricting/index.html
Population Growth
2010-2020

2010:

2020:

Growth,
90,284

2000-2020 Census, US Census Bureau and Montgomery Planning Research & Strategic Projects Division
Top Regions and Countries of Origin

Country of Origin

- El Salvador: 12.9%
- India: 7.9%
- China, excluding Hong Kong and Taiwan: 6.7%
- Ethiopia: 5.2%
- Guatemala: 4.7%
- Peru: 3.9%
- Philippines: 3.0%
- Vietnam: 2.9%
- Korea: 2.9%
- Honduras: 2.4%

Other, 0.9%

Source: 2019 American Community Survey, 1-year estimate, U.S. Census Bureau

Montgomery County Demographics
2000-2020 Census, US Census Bureau and Montgomery Planning Research & Strategic Projects Division
Population by Place

Source: 2019 American Community Survey, 5-year estimate, U.S. Census Bureau
Growth by Place

2010 - 2019 Clusters of Growth

Source: 2019 American Community Survey, 5-year estimate, U.S. Census Bureau
Median Age by Place

Countywide Median Age: 39.2 Years

Source: 2019 American Community Survey, 5-year estimate, U.S. Census Bureau
Montgomery County census tracts 1990-2019

Things to observe

- Tract sizes are different (larger = less populated)
- Whiter and less dense farther upcounty
- Less racial predominance downcounty, eastern, and along I-270 corridor
- Generally becoming more diverse (no racial predominance)
- Tracts becoming “Minority-majority”
Predominant Racial or Ethnic Group, 1990-2019
by Census Tract
Montgomery County, Maryland

Population Distribution, by Census Tract

Census Tract Acreage, by Race

Predominant Racial or Ethnic Group, 1990-2019 by Census Tract
Montgomery County, Maryland

Census Tract Acreage, by Race

Population Distribution, by Census Tract

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>65%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent Place</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barnesville town</td>
<td>WP</td>
<td>WP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brookeville town</td>
<td>WP</td>
<td>WM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chevy Chase town</td>
<td>WP</td>
<td>WP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chevy Chase Section Five village</td>
<td>WP</td>
<td>WP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chevy Chase Section Three village</td>
<td>WP</td>
<td>WP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chevy Chase View town</td>
<td>WP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chevy Chase Village town</td>
<td>WP</td>
<td>WP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaithersburg city</td>
<td>WM</td>
<td>NP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garrett Park town</td>
<td>WP</td>
<td>WP</td>
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<td>Glen Echo town</td>
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<td>WP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kensington town</td>
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<td>WP</td>
<td>WM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leisure World</td>
<td>WP</td>
<td>NP/WM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin's Additions village</td>
<td>WP</td>
<td>WP</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Chevy Chase village</td>
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<td>Poolesville town</td>
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<td>Somerset town</td>
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<td>WP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takoma Park city</td>
<td>NP</td>
<td>NP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Demographic Changes Summary

Age:
Over 65 Population is up and rising
Under 5 Population is falling, as are birth rates
The younger population is more diverse

Race/Ethnicity:
Increasing diversity but geographic segregation along racial lines
Income/Race are correlated and share a geographic pattern
How can you help?

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