



**Committee:** Directly to Council  
**Committee Review:** N/A  
**Staff:** Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq. Clerk of the Council  
**Purpose:** Final action – vote expected  
**Keywords:** #CouncilAppointments

AGENDA ITEM #4K  
January 26, 2021  
**Action**

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## **SUBJECT**

Appoint 11 members to Commission on Redistricting.

## **EXPECTED ATTENDEES**

None

## **COUNCIL DECISION POINTS**

The Council interviewed 32 applicants on December 2, 3, and 8, 2020. The Council needs to recommend 11 members for appointment.

Names of appointees and acting chair will be announced during the Council Session on January 26.

Council staff will work with the Commission to expedite the Commission report.

## **DESCRIPTION/ISSUE**

The Montgomery County Charter, as amended by the voters in the 2020 general election, states that the County shall be divided into seven Council districts for the purpose of nominating and electing seven members of the Council. Each district shall be compact in form and be composed of adjoining territory. Prior to the recent election, the Charter required the County to be divided into five Council districts. The new requirement for seven districts will apply to the 2022 election, and the County Council will consist of eleven members, with four at-large members.

## Charter Requirements - Summary

The Council must establish a Commission on Redistricting no later than February 1, 2021.

The Commission shall include at least one but no more than four members of each political party which polled at least 15% of the total vote cast for all candidates for the Council in the last preceding regular election. As a result of the 2018 General Election, there are two parties recognized by the State of Maryland: Democratic Party and Republican Party. At least one member of the Commission shall reside in each Council district.

The Commission shall, at its first meeting, select one of its members to serve as its chair.

No person who holds any elected office shall be eligible for appointment to the Commission.

By November 15, 2021, the Council must receive the Commission plan and report.

Within 30 days, the Council shall hold a public hearing on the Commission's plan. The plan is also customarily introduced as a bill at the request of the Redistricting Commission. The Council considers and may amend the bill (plan) and should take action within 90 days of receiving the plan.

If within 90 days after presentation of the Commission's plan, no other law reestablishing the boundaries of the Council districts has been enacted, then the plan, as submitted, shall become law.

Any law which prescribes Council districts is not subject to referendum.

### **This report contains:**

- Draft resolution ©A-B
- Press Release ©C-D
- Charter Sections 103 & 104 ©E
- List of interviewees © F-G
- List of applicants © H-J
- Email from Board of Elections ©K

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Resolution No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced: January 26, 2021  
Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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Lead Sponsor: County Council

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**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Commission on Redistricting

**Background**

1. The County Charter provides that Montgomery County shall be divided into seven Council districts for the purpose of nominating and electing seven members of the Council. Each district shall be compact in form and be composed of adjoining territory. Populations of the Council districts shall be substantially equal.
2. The Charter requires that the Council district boundaries be reestablished in 1972 and every tenth year thereafter and that the Council shall appoint, not later than February 1 of the year before the year in which redistricting is to take effect, a Commission on Redistricting.
3. Charter Section 104 outlines the redistricting process. The Commission shall be composed of 11 registered voters who reside in the County. The Commission shall include at least one but no more than four members of each political party which polled at least 15 percent of the total vote cast for all candidates for the Council in the last preceding regular election. In the most recent election, two parties polled at least 15 percent of the total vote cast for Councilmembers: the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. At least one member of the Commission shall reside in each Council district.
4. No person who holds any elected office shall be eligible for appointment to the Commission.
5. The Commission shall, at its first meeting, select one of its members to serve as its chair.
6. By November 15, 2021, the Commission shall present a plan of Council districts, together with a report explaining it, to the Council.
7. Within thirty days after receiving the plan of the Commission, the Council shall hold a public hearing on the plan. If within ninety days after presentation of the Commission's plan no other law reestablishing the boundaries of the Council districts has been enacted,

then the plan, as submitted, shall become law. After any redistricting plan or any other law amending the boundaries of Council districts becomes law, the boundaries of the Council districts shall apply to the next regular election for Councilmembers and to any special election held or appointment made to fill a vacancy on the Council that occurs after those boundaries are established.

- 8. The appointment of the Commission on Redistricting is before the Council for approval.

**Action**

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The following are appointed to serve as members of the Commission on Redistricting:

<b>District</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>

\_\_\_\_\_ is appointed to serve as Acting Chair of the Commission on Redistricting.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.  
Clerk of the Council



# Montgomery County Council

For Immediate Release

November 12, 2020

FOR INFORMATION: Selena Mendy Singleton  
Selena.Singleton@montgomerycountymd.gov

## Montgomery Council Seeks Applicants for County Commission on Redistricting

*Deadline Extended to Tuesday, November 17 at 5 p.m.*

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ROCKVILLE, Md., Nov. 12, 2020—The Montgomery County Council is seeking applicants for the County’s 11-member Commission on Redistricting. The positions must be filled by February 1, 2021. The deadline to apply for consideration is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, November 17, 2020.

The Montgomery County Charter, as amended by the voters in the 2020 general election, states that the County shall be divided into seven Council districts for the purpose of nominating and electing seven members of the Council. Each district shall be compact in form and be composed of adjoining territory. Prior to the recent election, the Charter required the County to be divided into five Council districts. The new requirement for seven districts will apply to the 2022 election, and the Council will consist of eleven members, with four at-large members.

The Charter also requires that the Council shall appoint a Commission on Redistricting. The Commission shall be composed of 11 registered voters who reside in the County. The Commission shall include at least one but no more than four members of each political party which polled at least 15 percent of the total vote cast for all candidates for the Council in the last preceding regular election. As a result of the 2018 General Election, there are two parties recognized by the State of Maryland: the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. At least one member of the Commission shall reside in each Council district. The commission shall, at its first meeting, select one of its members to serve as its chair. No person who holds any elected office shall be eligible for appointment to the Commission.

By November 15, 2021, the Commission shall present a plan of Council districts, together with a report explaining the plan to the Council. Within 30 days after receiving the plan, the Council shall hold a public hearing on it. If within 90 days after presentation of the Commission’s plan no other law re-establishing the boundaries of the Council districts has been enacted, then the plan, as submitted, shall become law.

Letters expressing interest, along with a resume no longer than four pages in length, in a position on the Commission on Redistricting must be emailed to [County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov](mailto:County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov) or received in the Office of the Montgomery County Council, 100 Maryland Avenue, 4th Floor, Rockville, MD 20850, no later than 5 p.m.,

Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2020. It is the Council's policy not to consider applications received after the deadline.

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# Charter of Montgomery County

## **Sec. 103. Council Districts.**

Montgomery County shall be divided into seven Council districts for the purpose of nominating and electing seven members of the Council. Each district shall be compact in form and be composed of adjoining territory. Populations of the Council districts shall be substantially equal.

Editor's note—See County Attorney Opinion dated 3/24/11 discussing the redistricting process. See County Attorney Opinion dated 3/20/91 explaining that the Redistricting Commission may consider and recognize natural and public municipal boundaries in creating new boundaries for councilmanic districts [updates 1981 analysis]. See County Attorney Opinion dated 3/20/91-A describing the impact of the Voting Rights Act on redistricting.

## **Sec. 104. Redistricting Procedure.**

The boundaries of Council districts shall be reviewed in 1972 and every tenth year thereafter. Whenever district boundaries are to be reviewed, the Council shall appoint, not later than February 1 of the year before the year in which redistricting is to take effect, a commission on redistricting. The Commission shall be composed of eleven registered voters who reside in the County. The Commission shall include at least one but no more than four members of each political party which polled at least fifteen percent of the total vote cast for all candidates for the Council in the last preceding regular election. At least one member of the Commission shall reside in each Council district. The Commission shall, at its first meeting, select one of its members to serve as its chair. No person who holds any elected office shall be eligible for appointment to the Commission.

By November 15 of the year before the year in which redistricting is to take effect, the Commission shall present a plan of Council districts, together with a report explaining it, to the Council. Within thirty days after receiving the plan of the Commission, the Council shall hold a public hearing on the plan. If within ninety days after presentation of the Commission's plan no other law reestablishing the boundaries of the Council districts has been enacted, then the plan, as submitted, shall become law. After any redistricting plan or any other law amending the boundaries of Council districts becomes law, the boundaries of the Council districts so established shall apply to the next regular election for Councilmembers and to any special election held or appointment made to fill a vacancy on the Council that occurs after those boundaries are established. (Election of 11-2-82; election of 11-3-98; election of 11-4-14; election of 11-6-18.)

Editor's note—See County Attorney Opinion No. 95.003 dated 12/6/95 explaining that the Council retains the authority to control whether the Commission on Redistricting plan becomes law, but the Council must take action within 90 days of receiving the plan. See County Attorney Opinion dated 1/9/92 explaining that not all meetings fall within the Open Meetings Act and, therefore, not all meetings need to be open to the public or included in public notice.

## Interviewees for Redistricting Commission

<b>Applicants</b>	Party Affiliation, Council District
Imad Aldean (Dean) Ahmad Bethesda, MD 20814	<b>Libertarian District 1</b>
Laura Ard Bethesda, MD 20816	<b>Independent District 1</b>
Faith T. Blackburne Silver Spring, MD 20905	<b>Democrat District 4</b>
John D. Brewer, Jr. Rockville, MD 20852	<b>Democrat District 1</b>
Ting Mei Chau Clarksburg, MD 20871	<b>Unaffiliated District 2</b>
Jacqueline G. Coolidge Chevy Chase MD 20815	<b>Democrat District 1</b>
Mariana C. Cordier Potomac, MD 20854	<b>Unaffiliated District 3</b>
Keshia Morris Desir Wheaton, MD 20902	<b>Unaffiliated District 4</b>
Arthur Edmunds Laytonsville, MD 20882	<b>Democrat District 2</b>
Valerie Ervin Silver Spring, MD 20910	<b>Democrat District 5</b>
Sheldon A. Fishman Silver Spring, MD 20902	<b>Democrat District 5</b>
George Gluck Rockville, MD 20853	<b>Green District 3</b>
Bruce A. Goldensohn Gaithersburg, MD 20878	<b>Republican District 3</b>
Julian A. Haffner Gaithersburg, MD 20879	<b>Democrat District 3</b>
Ms. Sara Harris Montgomery Village, MD	<b>Democrat District 2</b>
James Joseph Hedrick Rockville, MD 20851	<b>Democrat District 3</b>
Brigid Nuta Howe Wheaton, MD 20902	<b>Democrat District 4</b>
Stella K. Jefferies Montgomery Village, MD 20886	<b>Republican District 2</b>
Jason Langsner Potomac, MD 20854	<b>Democrat District 3</b>
Steve Lawrence Gaithersburg, MD 20878	<b>Democrat District 3</b>
Roman Levit Rockville, MD 20853	<b>Democrat District 3</b>



## Interviewees for Redistricting Commission

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Jason Adam Makstein North Potomac, MD 20878	<b>Independent District 2</b>
Matthew Murguía Kensington, MD 20895	<b>Democrat District 4</b>
Mr. Robert W. Nelson Gaithersburg, MD 20882	<b>Republican District 2</b>
Natalie Rosser Silver Spring, MD 20904	<b>Green Party District 5</b>
Ms. Fran Rothstein Silver Spring MD 20910	<b>Democrat District 5</b>
Nilmini Rubin Chevy Chase, MD 20815	<b>Republican District 1</b>
Andrew Saundry Germantown, MD 20874	<b>Democrat District 2</b>
Eric O. Smith Silver Spring, MD 20904	<b>Democrat District 5</b>
Samuel L. "Sam" Statland Kensington, MD 20895	<b>Democrat District 1</b>
Mr. David Stein Silver Spring, MD 20910	<b>Democrat District 5</b>
Michelle Whittaker Kensington, MD 20895	<b>Democrat District 4</b>

## List of Applicants

LAST	PARTY	DISTRICT
Ababio, Godfred	Republican	2
Ahmad, Dean	Libertarian	1
Ahmad, Saman	Democrat	2
Anestos, Michael	Republican	1
Ard, Laura	Independent	1
Banda, Aravind	Democrat	2
Beck, Tyler	Democrat	4
Berg, Vince	Democrat	3
Bivens, Christel	Republican	2
Blackburne, Faith	Democrat	4
Boddie-Willis, Cynthia	Democrat	2
Bolourian, Neda	Democrat	2
Brewer, Camille	Democrat	5
Brewer, John	Democrat	1
Bush, Alexander	Republican	4
Cecchi, Emilio	Unaffiliated	1
Chau, Ting Mei	Unaffiliated	2
Coolidge, Jacqueline	Democrat	1
Cordier, Mariana	Unaffiliated	3
Creel, Alisha	Democrat	3
Cyrus, Allora	Democrat	4
Danley, Christopher	Republican	1
Desir, Keshia Morris	Unaffiliated	4
Douglas, Matthew	Unaffiliated	5
Edmunds, Arthur	Democrat	2
Ervin, Valerie	Democrat	5
Fishman, Sheldon	Democrat	5
Forde, Lorna	Democrat	2
Froehlich, William	Democrat	1
Garrett, Bernadette	Unaffiliated	2
Gingery, J. Montgomery	Republican	1
Gluck, George	Green	3
Goldensohn, Bruce	Republican	3
Gugulis, Katherine	Republican	2
Haffner, Julian	Democrat	3
Harris, Sara	Democrat	2
Hedrick, James	Democrat	3
Hefter, Anne	Democrat	1
Howe, Brigid	Democrat	4
Jackson, Elliott	Democrat	2
James, Charles	Democrat	3
Jean, Martine	Democrat	5
Jefferies, Stella	Republican	2
Johnston, Jessica	Democrat	4
Katz, Noam	Non-Party Affiliate	1
Kenety, William	Democrat	1

Khan, Musawwir	Democrat	4
Khozeimeh, Issa	Republican	1
King, Marc	Independent	2
Kohn, Linda	Democrat	1
Koval, Tom	Republican	4
Kramer, Brian	Democrat	4
Langsner, Jason	Democrat	3
Lanza, Robert	Democrat	5
Lautman, Mark	Independent	1
Lawrence, Steve	Democrat	3
Levit, Roman	Democrat	3
Lim, Jesse-Thomas	Non-Party Affiliate	2
Lunasin, Rudy	Democrat	1
Makstein, Jason	Independent	2
Mancilla, Freddy	Democrat	1
Mechaly, Orly	Democrat	4
Merius, Marc	Democrat	5
Michaels, James	Democrat	1
Michaels, Leah	Democrat	3
Miranda, Samuel	Republican	5
Moorhead, David	Republican	3
Murguía, Matthew	Democrat	4
Nelson, Robert	Republican	2
Nephew, Thomas	Democrat	5
Neuringer, Jason	Republican	3
Nicholson, Howard	Democrat	4
Nuta, Virginia	Democrat	2
Nwoye, Joseph	Democrat	2
Pessin, Sally	Unaffiliated	1
Picerno, Nicholas	Democrat	2
Pope, Jeremiah	Democrat	5
Porter, Robyn	Republican	3
Priovolos, Jim	Republican	2
Ratner, Anna	Democrat	3
Rogers, Patricia	Republican	4
Rosebush, Lee	Republican	1
Rosser, Natalie	Green	5
Rothstein, Fran	Democrat	5
Rouse, Tina	Democrat	1
Rubin, Nilmini	Republican	1
Salgado, Ruwan	Democrat	1
Saundry, Andrew	Democrat	2
Schunk, Christian	Democrat	1
Schwartz, Paul	Democrat	4
Siegel, Melissa	Republican	1
Smith, Eric	Democrat	5
Statland, Samuel	Democrat	1

Stein, David	Democrat	5
Swift, Zhicheng	Unaffiliated	4
Terrel, Cynthia	Democrat	5
Thorne, Daryl	Democrat	4
Thornton, Matthew	Democrat	2
Ujcz, Mark	Democrat	4
VanderVegt, Francois	Republican	2
Virmani, Hitesh	Republican	2
Vogel, Rebekah	Democrat	4
Walter, Darryl	Democrat	1
Welch, Laura	Democrat	5
Whittaker, Michelle	Democrat	4
Wilhelm, Daniel	Democrat	5
Woodyard, Shawn	Democrat	1
Zatratz, Christopher	Democrat	2

**From:** [Newby, Jessica](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Anne](#)  
**Cc:** [Jurgensen, Margaret](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Redistricting Procedure - County Charter, Section 104  
**Date:** Monday, October 21, 2019 2:16:34 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Good afternoon Ms. Brown,

In the last regular election, the 2018 General Election, 412,571 voters cast a ballot. Below is a table showing the four recognized parties at the time of the General Election and the percentage of total votes cast for each party.

2018 General Election

Party	Votes Cast	Percentage of Total Votes Cast
Democrat	267,302	64.79%
Republican	68,494	16.60%
Libertarian*	1,399	0.34%
Green*	699	0.17%

\*The Libertarian party and the Green Party are no longer recognized parties in the State of Maryland.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Thanks!

**Jessica Newby**

**Voter Services, Program Evaluation & Compliance Manager**

Montgomery County Board of Elections

18753 N. Frederick Avenue, Suite 210

Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879

240-777-8520

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