



City Manager's Office

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/18/2023

TO: Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Doug Thornley, City Manager Approved Electronically

FROM: Calli Wilsey, Director of Policy and Strategy

SUBJECT: Memo from Washoe County Registrar of Voters Regarding 2023 Redistricting

Attached is a memo provided by the Washoe County Registrar of Voters detailing the requested timeline related to the City of Reno's process to create the sixth ward. The memo provides additional detail on why the deadline of September 1, 2023 was requested and the process for creating precincts.



Reno Redistricting for Creation of 6th Ward Requested timeline for Washoe County Registrar of Voters

Going into the 2024 election cycle, new requirements must be considered that previous redistricting timelines did not contemplate. Starting in 2024, the major party process for determining the presidential candidate from Nevada will transition to an election rather than a caucus. Dates and deadlines associated with the new primary election process are detailed in this memo to assist the City of Reno in its redistricting process. The Washoe County Registrar's Office requests that final maps are sent to our office by September 1, 2024, to ensure adequate time to carry out our 2024 election requirements.

Planning for the 2024 Presidential Preference Primary

According to the National Voter Registration Act and Nevada Revised Statutes, voter records cannot be changed during the 90-day period before an election. In consultation with the Nevada Secretary of State, the Washoe County Registrar's Office confirmed that the changing of any voter record, which would include redistricting or changing of voter's precincts, must be completed by November 7, 2023.

The Washoe County Registrar's Office is asking for maps to be submitted by the City of Reno to our office by September 1, 2023. This will allow time to create the precincts to match the new city council wards, file them with all appropriate entities per NRS 293.206, and mail notice to all residents of their new precinct and ward representation which could take several weeks.

Creating Precincts

Each precinct must contain no more than 5,000 active registered voters. However, to not have to redistrict every couple of years, precincts are created below that level to allow for growth. Each precinct must have the exact same representation as the precinct determines the voters ballot type. This means that every voter in the precinct must have the same elected officers for which they are eligible to vote. There cannot be a precinct where some residents would vote for one city council ward and others would vote for another. Precincts also must touch or be contiguous; so, if there is a section of a ward that is cut off from another section, either by city boundary lines or different elected office boundaries, those two sections cannot be one precinct and are required to be separate precincts.



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The graphic below shows a snapshot of one subset of precincts to visually show a portion the criteria used to create precincts as described above. The graphic indicates that some precincts would have to be their own precinct still due to different election districts. For example, the precinct in the darkest orange color has 183 registered voters as of March of 2023 and would not qualify to be merged with another precinct despite a small voter count. While precincts can be up to 5,000 registered voters, they could not be merged with any other precinct due to representation. Alternatively, the precincts highlighted in the lightest green shade below have the same election districts, however registered voters in those precincts as of March 2023 were almost 3 times the legal limit. That grouping would have to be separated into different precincts to accommodate voter limits. These would then need to be reviewed on a map to ensure that they are in fact touching and eligible to be merged without knowing the city council ward impacts.

Precinct	STATE SENATE	STATE ASSEMBLY	COUNTY COMMISSION	BOARD OF EDUCATION	UNIVERSITY REGENT	SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE	SCHOOL BOARD AT LARGE	RENO WARDS	GID	FPD	TOWNSHIP	Voters 3/2023
1000	13	24	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	675
1001	13	24	2	2	10	D	F	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	1459
1002	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	991
1003	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	1459
1004	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	45
1005	16	26	1	2	10	A	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	0
1006	13	24	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	955
1007	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	1305
1008	13	24	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	1774
1009	13	24	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	2721
1010	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	1285
1011	13	24	1	2	10	D	F	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	965
1012	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	523
1013	15	25	1	2	10	D	F	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	6
1014	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	1210
1016	15	27	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	1052
1017	15	25	2	2	10	D	F	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	195
1018	13	24	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	1127
1020	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	1106
1022	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	1632
1023	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	747
1024	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	1373
1026	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	789
1027	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	416
1031	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	701
1032	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	621
1033	13	24	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	979
1035	13	24	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	502
1036	13	24	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	693
1038	15	25	1	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	462
1039	13	24	3	2	10	D	G	1	NONE	NONE	RENO-VERDI	183

Number of Registered Voters in March 2023 per matching Districts			
965	9426	1459	183
14665	6	195	1052
0			

These do not account for if they are touching to be merged



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