

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-01**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GONZALES, TEXAS APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE NEW VOTING DISTRICT REAPPORTIONMENT MAP OF THE CITY AND REVISING THE COUNCIL MEMBER DISTRICT BOUNDARIES IN RESPONSE TO THE 2020 CENSUS; PROVIDING FOR THE REDISTRICTING OF THE FOUR (4) CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS WITHIN THE CITY OF GONZALES, TEXAS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS AND REPEALING CLAUSE, SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, based upon a review of the results of the 2020 U.S. Census Bureau decennial census, the City Council of the City of Gonzales determined that the redistricting of its single member council districts, District 1, District 2, District 3, and District 4 was necessary and followed criteria to guide the development of a reapportionment plan and the drawing of new voting district boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Gonzales has undertaken to redraw the four council member districts for the convenience of the people and to equalize population and assure compliance with the applicable requirements of state and federal law; and

**WHEREAS**, the population of the City of Gonzales, Texas (the “City”) is 7,165; and

**WHEREAS**, the existing City Council districts do not reflect equitable distribution of the population, while also accounting for predictable future growth; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council shall adjust the boundaries of the districts by ordinance at least once every ten (10) years, according to the latest available Census figures, to keep each of the four (4) districts in approximately the same qualified voter strength; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has been working with its legal counsel and GIS Specialists from Doucet & Associates (“Doucet”) to address the boundaries of the current City Council districts; and

**WHEREAS**, having reviewed mapping options provided by its consultants, the Council has selected the option they deemed best to harmonize the requirements of equality of population while accounting for predictable future growth; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed redistricting map shows the revised districts encompassing the voting precinct boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, following a public hearing, the City Council hereby finds that is in the best interest of the City to adopt the proposed redistricting map to better serve its citizens and in compliance with State and Federal laws.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GONZALES, TEXAS THAT:**

Section 1. That all of the above premises are hereby found to be true and correct legislative and factual findings of the City of Gonzales City Council and are hereby approved and incorporated into the body of this ordinance as if copied in their entirety.

Section 2. That the voting district map, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby approved, and adopted as the official voting district map based on the 2020 Census for the four (4) electoral City Council districts.

Section 3. That the City Manager or his/her designee is hereby instructed to send a copy of this ordinance and the amended city council member district maps to the proper officials of Gonzales County so the County can make the necessary changes in the County's election precincts, as required by the Texas Election Code, and effective for the May 2022 City Council Election.

Section 4. This new voting district map is effective immediately and shall be in full force and effect for the May 2022 municipal election and candidates shall file and voters shall vote in accordance with this map.

Section 5. The recitals contained in the preamble are hereby found to be true, and such recitals are hereby made a part of this Ordinance for all purposes and are adopted as part of the judgment and finding of the City Council.

Section 6. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

Section 7. If any provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held to be invalid, the remainder of this ordinance and the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall nevertheless be valid, and the City hereby declares that this ordinance would have been enacted without such invalid provision.

Section 8. This Ordinance shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and the United States of America.


Section 9. It is officially found, determined, and declared the meeting at which this Ordinance is adopted was open to the public and public notice of the time, place, and subject matter of the public business to be considered at such meeting including this Ordinance, was given, as required by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended.

Section 10. This Ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after its final passage, and it is so ordained.

**PASSED AND APPROVED on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.**

  
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Mayor, Cormie L. Kacir

ATTEST:

  
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Kristina Vega, City Secretary

**EXHIBIT A**  
**VOTING DISTRICT MAP**