

CITY COMMISSION AGENDA
SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2022
@ 5:30 PM
CITY HALL, TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM
2ND FLOOR, 118 E. TYLER AVENUE
HARLINGEN, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that the City Commission of the City of Harlingen, Texas will hold a Special Meeting on **Thursday, January 20th, 2022 at 5:30 P.M.** at City Hall, Town Hall Meeting Room, 118 E. Tyler Avenue, Harlingen, Texas and provide the public the ability to view the meeting via internet live streaming at www.myharlingen.us and the City of Harlingen You Tube Page.

To offer citizen communication or participate in scheduled public hearings telephonically, go to www.myharlingen.us and click on “PUBLIC HEARING AND CITIZEN COMMUNICATION FORM.” Fill out the form and indicate the item you wish to address, and submit the form.

The public will be permitted to offer citizen communication or participate in items listed as public hearings telephonically as provided by the agenda and permitted by the presiding officer during the meeting. Written comments may also be submitted for City staff to read aloud during the meeting.

Please indicate (1) the agenda item on which you wish to speak, (2) whether you prefer to speak on the item during citizen communication or at the time the agenda item is brought for consideration before the City Commission, and (3) a working telephone number at which you may be reached to submit your comments. The City will then call you when the item you wish to address is being considered. You will then address the City Commission through speakerphone, and your call will be made audible to the City Commission and to the public through the live stream. Please submit this request before 4:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

To submit written comments for City staff to read aloud during the meeting, go to www.myharlingen.us and click on “PUBLIC HEARING AND CITIZEN COMMUNICATION FORM” write your comments (limited to 400 words or less) and submit the form.

Please submit written comments before 4 p.m. the day of the meeting.

A recording of the meeting will be made and will be available to the public in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

City of Harlingen meetings are available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance, please contact the City Secretary’s Office at (956) 216-5001 or write Post Office Box 2207, Harlingen, Texas 78550 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

The Harlingen City Commission reserves the right, pursuant to the Texas Government Code Chapter 551, Subchapter D, to enter into closed executive session on any item posted on the agenda if a matter is raised that is appropriate for closed discussion.

Call Meeting to Order

Citizen Communication/Input

1. Discussion and possible action to approve the second and final reading of an ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Harlingen, Texas approving the redistricting of the City's Single Member Council Districts and establishing new districts, boundary lines based on 2020 Census Data for Harlingen Elections, amending Article IV, Section 3, Harlingen Code of Ordinances, repealing conflicting ordinances and resolutions, providing for a clause and providing for an effective date. Attachment (***This item was requested by Commissioner Perez and seconded by Commissioner Puente***)

Adjournment

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that the above Notice of the Regular Meeting of the Harlingen City Commission is a true and correct copy of said notice posted on the bulletin board at City Hall of said City of Harlingen, Texas in a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public at all times and on the Corporation's Internet Website and said Notice was posted on Friday, January 14th, 2022, at or before 3:15 p.m. and remained so posted for at least 72 hours preceding the time of said meeting.

Dated this 14th day of January, 2022



Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary

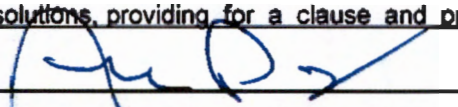
City of Harlingen

City of Harlingen


Agenda Item Request Form

We, hereby request the following item to be added to the January 19, 2022 City Commission Agenda:

Consideration and possible action to schedule a Special City Commission^{meeting} for Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to approve the second and final reading of an ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Harlingen, Texas approving the redistricting of the City's Single Member Council Districts and establishing new districts, boundary lines based on 2020 Census Data for Harlingen Elections, amending Article IV, Section 3, Harlingen Code of Ordinances, repealing conflicting ordinances and resolutions, providing for a clause and providing for an effective date.



Commissioner Rene Perez, District 5



Commissioner Frank Puentes, District 2

City of Harlingen

Ordinance No. 2022-_____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HARLINGEN, TEXAS APPROVING THE REDISTRICTING OF THE CITY'S SINGLE MEMBER COUNCIL DISTRICTS AND ESTABLISHING NEW DISTRICT BOUNDARY LINES BASED ON 2020 CENSUS DATA FOR HARLINGEN CITY COMMISSION ELECTIONS AMENDING ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3 HARLINGEN CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES, REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of Harlingen first implemented single member districts for the purpose of electing one city commission from each district in the city election of May 9th, 2009, and

WHEREAS, the City of Harlingen has not modified or redrawn the line of those single member districts since they were first implemented in 2009, and

WHEREAS, the City of Harlingen has experienced rapid and uneven growth citywide over the past decade, which is likely to continue, and

WHEREAS, upon the receipt of population data from the 2020 US Census, it became clear that City was legally required to create a new city wide districting plan to comply with the requirements of Voting Rights Act of 1965 because of huge disparities in population between various city commission districts and,

WHEREAS, the City Commission in 2021 unanimously voted to retain the services of an independent redistricting attorney to create and or approve proposed redistricting maps with district boundary lines drawn based on 2020 US Census figures so that they could be considered by the City Commission, and

WHEREAS, on January 4th, 2022 the City Commission held a workshop whereas the City Commission received input from both its independent redistricting consultant and from the general public regarding the proposed redistricting maps under consideration, and

WHEREAS, the City Commission held a regular public meeting on January 5th, 2022 where the public was afforded the opportunity to make additional public comment regarding five redistricting plans under consideration, and

WHEREAS, after receiving said additional public input, and based on the advice of their independent consultant who informed the City Commission, that "Plan C" was both a legal redistricting plan, and was based on 2021 US Census data, the City Commission passed a

resolution approving redistricting map " Plan C" as the City of Harlingen Redistricting Map for new Single Member District Map, and

WHEREAS, the City Commission believes incorporating the new Municipal City Commission District Map into the Harlingen Code of Ordinances will operate to increase public awareness of the new city commission district boundaries and district map, thereby increasing voter turnout and promoting civic engagement and participation during May 2022 municipal election cycle.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HARLINGEN, TEXAS

Section 1. That the finding of the Preamble of this Ordinance are determined to be true and correct and are hereby adopted.

Section 2. That the redistricting of the City of Harlingen's municipal city commission district is hereby approved, and those new boundary lines are set forth on the municipal district map (2022) are attached as Exhibit A hereto.

Section 3. The all resolutions or ordinances in conflict with the approval of the City of Harlingen redistricting map (2022) are hereby repealed.

Section 4. HARLINGEN CODE OF ORDINANCES, ARTICLE IV, "MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT. Section 3 – "Election and Term of Office" is hereby renumbered to read "ARTICLE IV, MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, Section 3(A) Election and Term of Office,"

Section 5. HARLINGEN CODE OF ORDINANCES ARTICLE IV, MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT,

SECTION 3. is hereby amended to add Article IV, Municipal Government, Section 3 (B) " Single Member District Map and Boundaries" as follows:

"Article IV, Municipal Government

Section 3 (b). " Single Member District Map and Boundaries"

3 (b) The Official Municipal District Map of the City of Harlingen (2022) setting forth new municipal city commission district boundaries is hereby approved and attached as Exhibit A, and made a part hereof, and is incorporated for all purposes.

Section 6. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this code, or any codes or portions of codes adopted herein by reference, is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid or ineffective by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remaining portions of this code, or any codes or portions of codes adopted herein by reference. The city commission hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof

irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional, invalid or ineffective.

PASSED upon First Reading this _____ day of _____, 2022

PASSED AND ADOPTED upon Second Reading this _____ day of _____ 2022

CITY OF HARLINGEN

Chris Boswell, Mayor

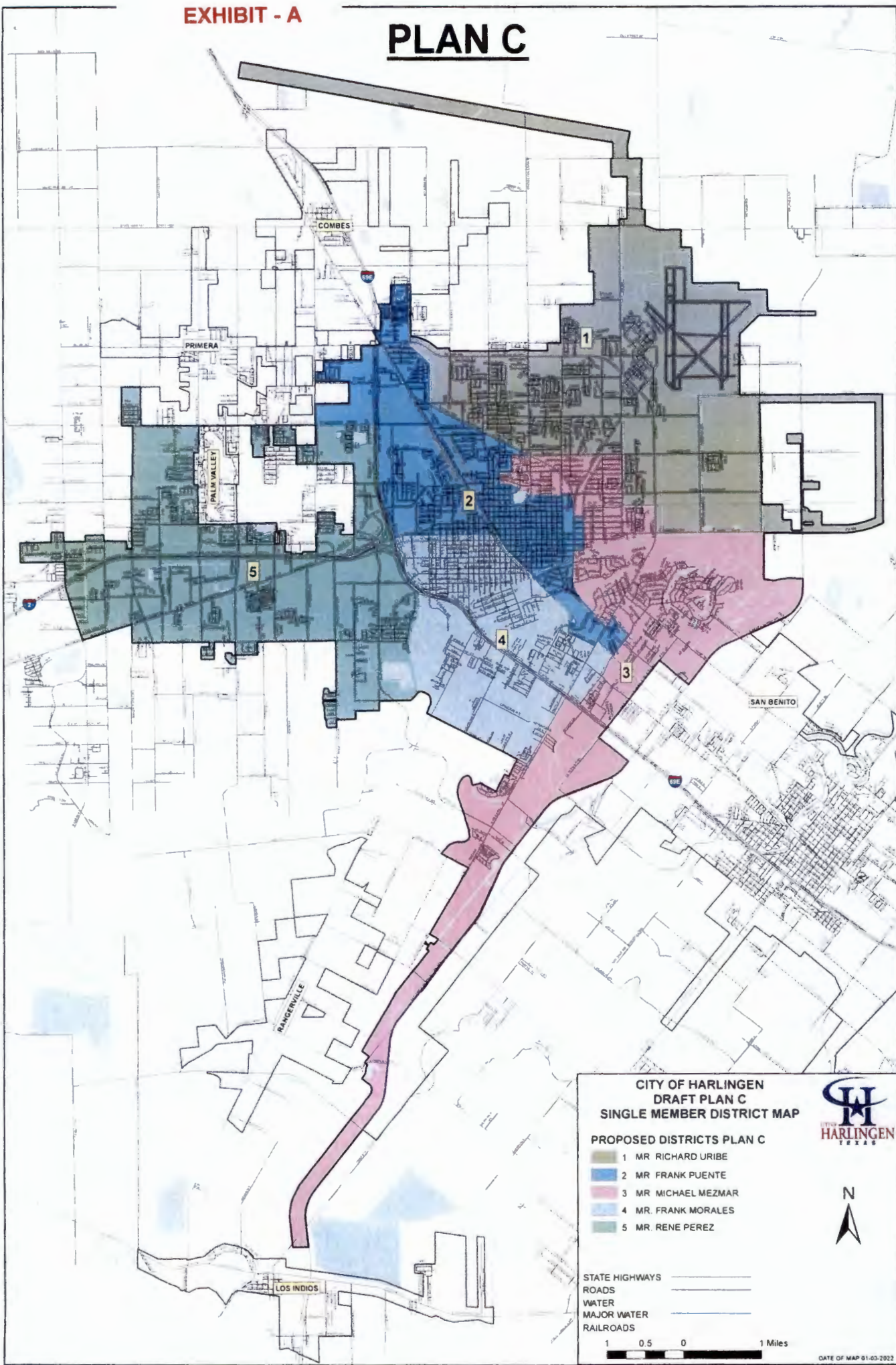
ATTEST:

Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT

Mark Sossi, Interim City Attorney

PLAN C



**CITY OF HARLINGEN
DRAFT PLAN C
SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICT MAP**



- PROPOSED DISTRICTS PLAN C**
- 1 MR RICHARD URIBE
 - 2 MR FRANK PUENTE
 - 3 MR MICHAEL MEZMAR
 - 4 MR. FRANK MORALES
 - 5 MR. RENE PEREZ

- STATE HIGHWAYS
- ROADS
- WATER
- MAJOR WATER
- RAILROADS

