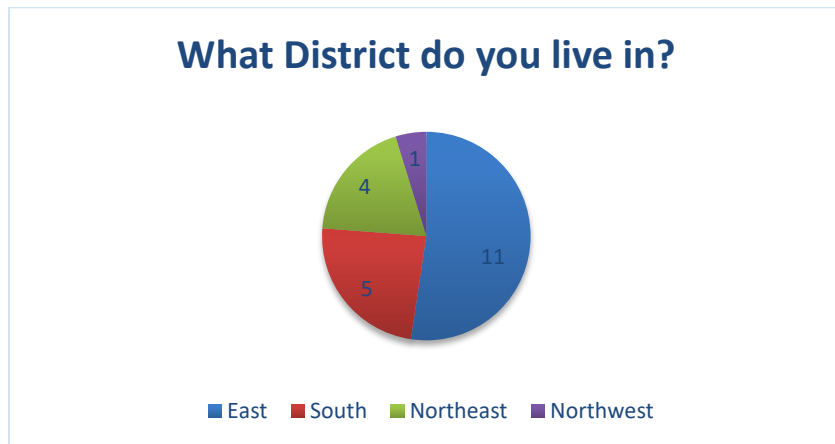




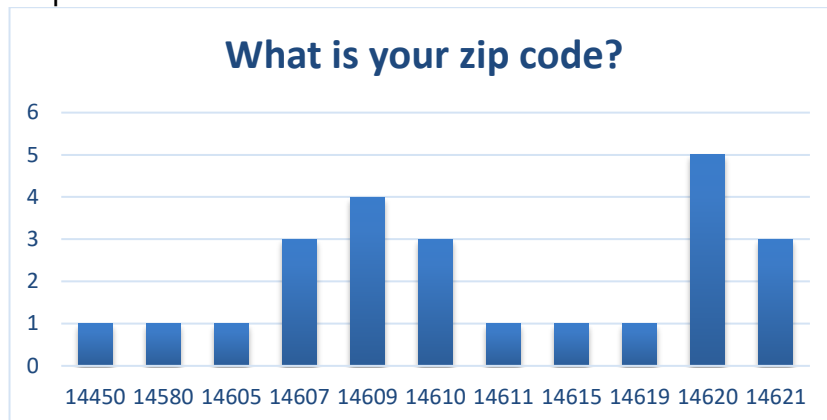
Attachment A – City Council 2022 Redistricting Report

Survey Responses

- Attached is a copy of the survey distributed; the survey was announced via a press release, published on the City website, and shared on social media.
- The Neighborhood Service Center and Library staff were also made available of the survey and provided a general overview of the redistricting in case any constituents inquired at their locations.
- QR codes of the surveys were printed and distributed to Councilmembers and at the public input sessions.
- The survey was open for a little over three weeks, from September 18-October 11.
- 24 responses were filled out, two from the same respondent, meaning 23 individual responses were received.
 - Three respondents do not live in the City, and therefore, are unable to complete the questions related to living in the current City Council districts.
 - 20 respondents live in the City; 11 in the East District, five in the South District, four in the Northeast District, and one in the Northwest District.



- The 14620 zip code was the most represented, followed by 14609. Many City zip codes were not represented.



- 16 of the 23 respondents felt connected with neighborhoods outside their own.
- When asked if they liked or disliked the current lines:
 - Seven respondents said the lines made sense or were fine, and three respondents either had no opinion.
 - Five comments referenced confusion between the South and East District lines, specifically the South Wedge neighborhood being in both of the Districts.
 - One comment mentioned the need for the District lines to follow the Genesee River.
 - Two comments suggested District lines should follow recognized neighborhood boundaries.
 - One respondent noted their neighborhood, Grove Place, was split in two. Similar comment made by a respondent who lives in the South Wedge.
 - One comment mentioned the District names were confusing and suggested simplifying the names to North, West, South and East.
- When asked to provide additional feedback or comments:
 - Three respondents were concerned about equity, specifically about gerrymandering, disenfranchising Black and Brown communities, and distributing funds to less wealthy neighborhoods more efficiently.
 - Three respondents praised public engagement; two of those comments encouraged continued engagement with the neighborhoods.
 - Two comments recommended changes to the District lines that would involve an amendment to the City Charter, specifically requesting additional Council districts.

Presentation

- Staff developed a short PowerPoint presentation in collaboration with the League of Women Voters to briefly explain what redistricting is, what the current Districts are in the city, what the recent Census determined, and how the redistricting process works.
- The presentation was narrated and the resulting video was posted on the City Council YouTube Channel, the City Council Facebook, and the City website at a dedicated page, (<https://www.cityofrochester.gov/redistricting/>)
- Copies of the presentation were provided to the Neighborhood Service Center and Public Library staff. Printed copies were brought and handed out at each public input session.

Public Input Sessions

- Two public input sessions were held at the Rochester Public Library. One was held in the evening (6pm) on Wednesday, September 28 and the other was held on a weekend morning (11am), on Saturday, October 1.
- The location selected given the Library's prominence in the community, and because the physical location is accessible by bus lines and walkable from the Transit Center.
- An ASL interpreter was at each session, although there were minor issues with sound in the beginning of the sessions.
- The events were noticed via a press release on September 19, and flyers were shared on Facebook. Councilmembers were encouraged to share the flyers with their own social media and other contacts.

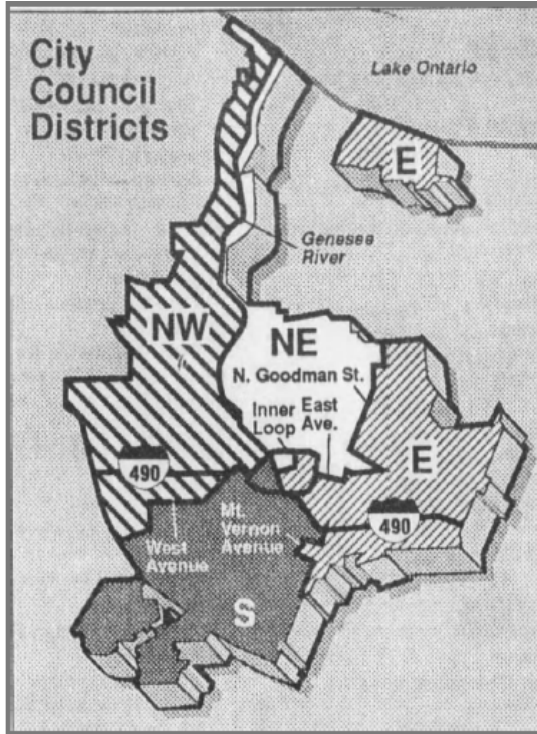
Council staff prepared a presentation in collaboration with the League of Women Voters for the Rochester Metro Area. The presentation was shown at the beginning of each session.

- Maps of the current District lines were displayed, along with previous District maps and newspaper articles related to past redistricting processes, pulled from the City Historian’s archives.
- QR codes linked to the survey were on each table in the room.
- At the first session, one participant attended. They were in favor of creating additional District Seats, which is beyond the scope of redistricting and would require a Charter amendment.
 - The concept of eliminating At-Large Council seats and creating more than four District seats was presented vociferously by the sole participant. This concept seems to fall more appropriately into the category of changes and revisions to the City Charter as it pertains to the makeup of City Council than redistricting the current City Council Districts.
- At the second session, three participants attended, one being the same participant as the first session.
 - The other two participants came to the event together and were grateful for the overview clarifying the process as they were unfamiliar with the subject.
 - One of the participants emphasized the need to reach all communities, including the elderly population who need outreach to come to them.
 - The second participant thanked the Council and League for the work put into the process so far, but was concerned about reaching the youth population in the schools. They stressed the importance of using direct and indirect outreach – meaning social media *and* going into school to teach our younger population about these civic processes.

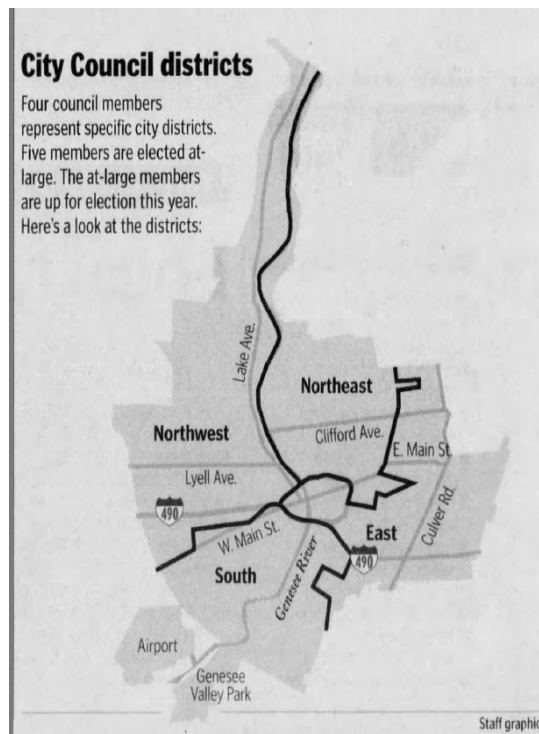
Main Takeaways

- Given the minimal population changes reflected in the decennial census, the City Council District lines are not required to change.
- The current District lines seem to be generally non-controversial.
 - Redistricting efforts received coverage in the media and yet still had minimal participant, particularly when compared to other local redistricting that was more controversial.
- With only four apportioned Districts, there doesn’t seem to be many other logical models for the general geographic makeup of the Districts.
- These assumptions are borne out by history, in so much as past redistricting over the past 30 years has only provided minor “tweaks” to the existing Districts, all of which look very similar to those in place today, as evident in the maps on the next page. Additional historical archives are also included on the following pages.

1991:



2001:



Current Districts:

