

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
FORT BEND COUNTY §

**ORDER ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES FOR
THE 2025 FORT BEND COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY
REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE**

The Fort Bend County Commissioner’s Court is the governing body of Fort Bend County, Texas, meeting in a duly scheduled and posted meeting, does hereby adopt the following guidelines for the Fort Bend County 2025 Citizens Advisory Redistricting Committee to promote transparency in the redistricting process.

Section 1. The Fort Bend County Commissioner’s Court finds that the purpose of the committee is to study and make a non-binding recommendation to the Commissioner’s Court about a redistricting map.

Section 2. The Fort Bend County Commissioner’s Court finds that no individual is precluded from submitting a map directly to any member of the Fort Bend County Commissioner’s Court or to the Fort Bend County Commissioner’s Court as a body.

Section 3. The members of the Fort Bend County 2025 Citizens Advisory Redistricting Committee shall adhere to the following criteria and rules of conduct while serving on the committee:

1. Each advisory committee member shall recognize that the chief function of the committee at all times is to serve the best interests of Fort Bend County;
2. Each advisory committee member shall serve with respect, concern, courtesy, and responsiveness in carrying out the mission of the committee;
3. Each advisory committee member shall conduct themselves with the highest standards of integrity, truthfulness, honesty, fairness and fortitude in carrying out the mission of the committee in order to inspire confidence and trust in the redistricting process;
4. Each advisory committee member shall engage in respectful communication with the public, other members of the committee, members of the Fort Bend County Commissioner’s Court, as well as with Fort Bend County employees and officials;

5. Each advisory committee member shall not seek to profit by virtue of their vote or position on the committee, shall not allow themselves to be improperly influenced, or discriminate unfairly when participating in this process;
6. Each advisory committee member shall avoid any interest or activity that is in conflict with the conduct of the duties of the committee;
7. Any advisory committee member that provides testimony in front of the Fort Bend County Commissioner's Court, shall do so under Oath in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 81.030.
8. No individual committee member shall have any ex parte communications concerning redistricting on behalf of the committee, without a vote of the majority of the committee, recognizing that such vote shall be made in a meeting that complies with the Texas Open Meetings Act.
9. The Advisory Committee as a body shall ensure that district lines are drawn in accordance with the redistricting criteria established by the Fort Bend County Commissioner's Court;
10. The Advisory Committee as a body, shall conduct an open and transparent process enabling full public consideration of, and comment on, the drawing of district lines;
11. The Advisory Committee as a body shall adhere to and comply with the Texas Open Meetings Act and Texas Public Information Act;
12. The Advisory Committee as a body shall reject any redistricting plan that favors or discriminates against any political party or any other group;
13. The Advisory Committee as a body shall review and consider any proposed and complete written plans submitted by citizens which include all four (4) commissioner precincts and that redistrict the entire County, that are based on the 2020 Census Data and that otherwise comply with the redistricting criteria established by the Fort Bend County Commissioner's Court.
14. The Advisory Committee as a body, shall establish written procedures governing the submission of proposals that are consistent with this Order.

15. The Advisory Committee as a body, shall be available to any member of the Fort Bend County Commissioner's Court to address any questions and/or concerns the member of the Commissioner's Court has concerning this redistricting effort;
16. The Advisory Committee as a body, shall allow the members of the Fort Bend County Commissioner's Court to review all plans submitted or considered by the committee assuming those plans met the criteria set by the Fort Bend County Commissioner's Court.

The guidelines for the Fort Bend County 2025 Redistricting Advisory Committee approved this date were considered in open Court, following posting not less than three (3) business days before any action taken on the same.

Upon motion by _____, second by _____, the Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County hereby adopts the criteria set forth herein by a vote of _____ to _____.

Approval of this Order supersedes and vacates any prior such Resolution adopting Criteria for Use in the 2025 Redistricting Process and Establishing Guidelines for Persons Submitting Specific Redistricting Proposals and Providing Comments.

Signed this ____ day of _____, 2025. This shall take effect and be in full force on its execution by the County Judge.

County Judge

Attest:

County Clerk