

CHAPTER 1. CITY AND WARD BOUNDARIES

Section 3. Thirteen Wards.

- A. The City shall consist of thirteen Wards with as nearly equal population as practicable. Within the time specified in paragraph C hereof the Charter Commission shall readjust the boundaries of the Wards in accordance with the following standards:
1. A population quota for each Ward shall be determined by dividing the total population of the City by 13. In no case shall any Ward, when readjusted, have a population more than five percent over or under such population quota.
 2. Each Ward shall consist of contiguous compact territory not more than twice as long as it is wide, provided that the existence of any lake within any Ward shall not be contrary to this provision. ~~For the purposes of this section, length and width are not defined as distances east to west or north or south but rather from the widest and narrowest perpendicular axes.~~ Wherever possible, Ward boundary lines shall follow the centerline of streets, avenues, alleys and boulevards and as nearly as practicable, shall run due East and West or North and South.
 3. To the extent possible, the Wards shall be numbered consecutively, first on the East side of the Mississippi river and then on the West side and from North to South. However, notwithstanding the foregoing, effective the date of this amendment and thereafter, all newly drawn Wards shall retain the same numerical designation as the then currently existing Ward from which the newly drawn ward received the largest portion of its population.
 4. Population shall be determined by use of the official population, as stated by census tracts and blocks in the official United States Census. Whenever it is necessary to modify census data in fixing a Ward boundary, the Charter Commission may compute the population of any part by use of other pertinent data or may have a special enumeration made of any block or blocks using the standards of the United States Census. If the population of any block or blocks is so determined, the Charter Commission may assume that the remainder of the census tract has the remaining population shown by the census. In every such case, the determination of the Charter Commission as to population shall be conclusive, unless manifestly contrary to the census.
- B. In each year ending in the number two, or whenever the number of Wards is changed, or when required by court order, the Charter Commission will draw Ward boundaries.

The Commission will appoint an Advisory Group of not more than nine members who are eligible voters of the City of Minneapolis. The Advisory Group will be advisory only and will operate in accordance with rules and procedures established by the Commission. Applications for the Advisory Group will be accepted for at least 45 days prior to the appointment of its members by the Commission. The City Clerk will receive all applications to serve on the Advisory Group. The application will include such information as may be specified by the Charter Commission. Applicants shall not currently be or within two years previous to appointment, have been an elected official of municipal, county, state or federal government, nor an employee of a political party, nor a candidate in a primary or general election for a public office for which the ballot indicates a political party designation of candidates, nor an employee of City government. In appointing members to the Advisory Group, the Charter Commission will consider the diversity of its membership.

The City Council, upon request of the Charter Commission, shall promptly provide funding for such staff and other assistance as the Commission deems necessary to complete its work in a timely manner.

- C. At or within the times prescribed by law, the Charter Commission shall adopt a Ward boundary plan in accordance with the standards of paragraph A hereof. The Commission, with appropriate notice, shall hold at least four public hearings prior to adoption of the plan. At least two of the public hearings shall be for the purpose of reviewing the proposed plan. A copy of the proposed plan shall be published as a legal notice for the public at least seven (7) days prior to the public hearing on the proposed plan. Neighborhoods, as delineated by the Planning Department, shall be solicited for their input. The plan shall state the boundaries and population of each Ward and shall be deemed completed when approved by a majority of Commissioners voting at a duly called meeting of the Charter Commission and filed with the City Clerk.. If the District Court finds the plan improper and returns it, the Commission shall reconvene for the purpose of revising and readopting the redistricting plan. Whenever Wards have been so readjusted, no further Ward adjustment shall be made until the announcement of the next decennial United States Census. In the event any territory shall be annexed to the City, it shall become part of the adjoining Ward.
- D. The District Court shall exercise original jurisdiction in any matter relating to redistricting in the manner provided by law, and upon application by a person having legal standing after notice and hearing may compel the execution of any action required hereunder by order of the Court.
 - 1. If a redistricting plan is questioned in a proceeding before the Court, and insufficient time remains to determine the issue, the Court may either (a) postpone the effective date of the plan, or (b) if the proposed plan appears to more closely reflect the distribution of population than the existing Ward boundaries, order that the proposed redistricting be effective for the next

election without prejudice to the issue with respect to subsequent elections.

2. If a redistricting plan is challenged in a proceeding before the Court, and the Court finds the plan is improper, the Court shall return the plan to the Charter Commission for revision and readoption.
- E. No readjustment of Ward boundaries shall apply to any City election if the adopted plan goes into effect after the first date for filing for such elections. All Council Members, including those who take office as provided in Chapter 2, Section 16 or 16A of this Charter, may complete the term for which they are elected, or appointed notwithstanding changes in Ward boundaries.
- F. This amendment shall take effect immediately upon certification of its adoption by the voters of the City of Minneapolis.
- G. The method herein provided shall be the sole method for readjusting Ward boundaries, and the City Council shall have no power to readjust Ward boundaries except as in this selection provided.
- H. Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis. Within the time specified in Charter Chapter 1, section 3, and Chapter 16, section, 1, the Charter Commission shall set the boundaries of the school board districts in accordance with the redistricting principles it uses to set the boundaries of the City Wards and the Park Board districts, and in accordance with Minnesota law.

CHAPTER 16. PARKS AND PARKWAYS

Section 1. Park and Recreation Board--Election--Terms of Office. The Park and Recreation Board of the City of Minneapolis and its successors, shall be a department of the government of said City and shall be the successor to and a continuation of the Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Minneapolis, and shall consist of nine commissioners. All funds, property, or other assets, all obligations and liabilities of any nature, and all ordinances, regulations and actions of all kinds and all powers, duties and privileges heretofore provided by statute or by this Charter for the Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Minneapolis shall in all respects be those of the Park and Recreation Board of the City of Minneapolis.

At the general City election in 1975, the electors of the entire City shall elect three (3) Commissioners-at-large, one (1) for a term of two (2) years and two (2) for a term of four (4) years each. The term of the Commissioner elected by the least number of votes at said election shall be two (2) years and the terms of the other two (2) commissioners elected shall be four (4) years. At the general City election in 1977 and every four (4) years thereafter, the electors of the entire City shall elect one

Commissioner-at-large for a term of four (4) years and the electors residing in each even-numbered Park and Recreation District shall elect from their respective districts one (1) Commissioner for a term of four (4) years. At the general City election of 1979 and every four (4) years thereafter, the electors of the entire City shall elect two (2) Commissioners-at-large for a term of four (4) years each and the electors residing in each odd-numbered Park and Recreation District shall elect from their respective districts one (1) Commissioner for a term of four (4) years. Commissioners serving at the time this amendment [adopted November 4, 1975] takes effect shall continue in office for the balance of their respective terms.*

*Special law reference--The user may wish to note that S3 of Laws 1986, Ch. 433, changed the time of election and extended certain term of commissioners of the park and recreation board.

There are hereby created six Park and Recreation Districts within the city, each of which shall be composed of the area presently contained within the election precincts listed opposite the respective Park and Recreation District as follows:

DISTRICT I

Precincts 1 through 11 of Ward 1
Precincts 1 through 9 of Ward 2
Precincts 1 through 5 of Ward 3

DISTRICT II

Precincts 1 through 13 of Ward 4
Precincts 6 through 12 of Ward 3
Precincts 1 through 9 of Ward 5

DISTRICT III

Precincts 1 through 20 of Ward 6
Precincts 10 through 14 of Ward 2
Precincts 1, 2, and 4 through 10 of Ward 9
Precincts 13 and 14 of Ward 3
Precinct 2 of Ward 12

DISTRICT IV

Precincts 1 through 16 of Ward 7

Precincts 1 through 8 of Ward 10

Precincts 1 through 5 of Ward 8
Precincts 10 through 12 of Ward 5
Precinct 3 of Ward 9

DISTRICT V

Precincts 1 and 3 through 16 of Ward 12
Precincts 4 through 16 of Ward 11
Precincts 14 through 16 of Ward 8
Precincts 11 through 14 of Ward 9

DISTRICT VI

Precincts 1 through 18 of Ward 13
Precincts 9 through 15 of Ward 10
Precincts 6 through 13 of Ward 8
Precincts 1 through 3 of Ward 11

Whenever Ward boundaries within the City are officially changed, but not later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the opening of filing for city office, the Charter Commission shall propose a plan for changing the boundaries of the six (6) Park and Recreation Districts and notify the Park and Recreation Board of the proposed plan. The Park and Recreation Board shall then review the proposed plan and make recommendations to the Charter Commission. The Charter Commission shall consider any recommendations made by the Park and Recreation Board and shall adopt the Park and Recreation District boundaries no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the opening of filings for city offices. Without dividing any election precincts, the boundary lines prescribed by this section shall be retained as nearly as practicable in readjusting the boundaries of any park and recreation district.