

TOWN OF OCEAN VIEW
DELAWARE

December 15, 2021

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Carol S. Houck, Town Manager *CSH*

SUBJECT: Recommendation to Hire UD Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research (CADSR) to Assist with Redistricting of Council Districts in Association with 2020 Census

Background

The Town of Ocean View is divided into four (4) geographic election districts for Town Council. A memo dated November 30, 2021 from Town Solicitor Schrader outlines in detail the requirements to redistrict.

Therefore, following the completion of the 2020 Census, it is now appropriate for the Town to engage in a review of its Council districts. Section 2.502 of the Town Charter states that “the Council will reevaluate and reestablish the boundaries of the Council districts, if necessary, to achieve substantial equality of representation as soon as practicable following the publication of each decennial census of the population of the United States.” In addition, any redistricting effort should consider the following:

- Contiguous areas
- Minimizing the number of split subdivisions
- Preserving the core of districts formed earlier
- Incumbent protection

To facilitate the completion of this district boundary review and provide a recommendation to the Mayor and Council, it may be best to engage an outside entity to develop our 2022 Town of Ocean View council manic district map.

Fortunately, the University of Delaware, Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research (CADSR) offers this service to local communities. The Town Solicitor is familiar with CADSR’s work with the Town of Bridgeville Delaware’s recent redistricting effort.

Agreement Deliverable/Timeline/Cost

Attached please find the agreement from CADSR to provide the following deliverable:

Deliverable: 2022 Town of Ocean View council manic district map

Work Description: CADSR will obtain the 2020 census block redistricting information for the Town of Ocean View from the United States Census Bureau (www.census.gov), the current council manic districts (4) data layer for the Town of Ocean View and the current digital copy of the Town of Ocean View boundary layer. These three data layers along with other various base layers will allow CADSR

staff to assist the commission with the legislative purpose of redistricting new council manic districts.

Timeline: The work will begin February 1, 2022 and be completed no later than August 31, 2022. The outcome of the redistricting effort will therefore have no impact the April 2022 Council Elections.

Cost: The cost associated with the work is **\$4,429**.

Funding Source

The funds to support this effort are available from our Consulting Services line item in the FY22 Operating Budget.

Town Support Committee

The Towns working committee to assist in the provision of information or historical details related to the build out of the Town of Ocean View will include the following (with Council support):

- Town Manger
- Town Clerk
- Finance Director
- Former Councilmember (Bill Olsen)
- Former Councilmember (TBD)

Recommendation

It is therefore recommended that Mayor and Council authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with The UD Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research to assist with the Towns interest to maintain substantial equality of representation within our Council Districts at the total cost of \$4,429 and,

It is also recommended that the Mayor and Council support the working committee as noted above with one spot to be filled as able, to assist CADSR in this effort as necessary.