

# Guidance for Public Participation

## PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE (as of 6/8/11)

6/20 – Tallahassee  
6/21 – Pensacola  
6/21 – Fort Walton  
6/22 – Panama City  
7/11 - Jacksonville  
7/12 – St. Augustine  
7/12 – Daytona Beach  
7/13 – The Villages  
7/13 – Gainesville  
7/25 – Lakeland  
7/26 – Wauchula  
7/26 – Wesley Chapel  
7/27 – Orlando  
7/28 – Melbourne  
8/15 – Stuart  
8/16 – Boca Raton  
8/16 – Davie  
8/17 – Miami  
8/17 – South Miami  
8/18 – Key West  
8/29 – Tampa  
8/30 – Largo  
8/30 – Sarasota  
8/31 – Naples  
8/31 – Lehigh Acres  
9/1 - Clewiston

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Florida House of Representatives  
**Redistricting Committee**  
[www.floridaredistrioting.org](http://www.floridaredistrioting.org)



## Guidance for Public Participation in Florida's 2011-2012 Redistricting

Florida's 2011-2012 redistricting process will include an unprecedented number of ways the public can participate in redistricting, including the resources accessible via [www.floridaredistrioting.org](http://www.floridaredistrioting.org) and the House's web-based [MyDistrictBuilder](#) application.



The Florida House of Representatives is emphasizing that redistricting must occur with a relentless focus on adherence to federal law, the standards in Florida's newly adopted [Amendments 5 and 6](#), and traditional principles that are consistent with those standards.

House Speaker Dean Cannon appointed Members to the Redistricting Committee and Subcommittees with the instruction that:

**“Members [of the House] should refrain from discussing their personal ambitions, their personal district preferences, or the ambitions or preferences of other candidates or officeholders with the chairmen, the members, or the staff of the Redistricting Committee or the redistricting subcommittees.”**

**The Florida House of Representatives also encourages public testimony and other public suggestions for redistricting to draw from the same letter and spirit of federal and state standards.**

To assist the public, this handout outlines the kinds of testimony and information that is welcomed in all phases of the redistricting process.

Equally as important, this handout also identifies the kinds of information that will **NOT** be considered as part of Florida's redistricting.

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www.floridaredistricting.org



## Will Be Considered

### Federal Law

- ✓ Equal population: "One-person, one-vote."
- ✓ Sections 2 and 5 of the Federal Voting Rights Act (VRA).

### Florida Law Tier 1

- ✓ Implementation of the racial and language minority protections in Amendments 5 & 6 to the Florida Constitution, consistent with the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the United States Constitution.
- ✓ Contiguity.

### Florida Law Tier 2

(Unless they conflict with Federal Law or Tier 1 of Florida Law)

- ✓ All the various standards of compactness.
- ✓ The use of political or geographic boundaries where feasible.

### Traditional Redistricting Principles

(Unless they conflict with the standards above)

- ✓ Preservation of the core of existing districts to – among other things – minimize voter confusion.
- ✓ Preservation of communities of interest that do not conflict with the standards above.

## Will NOT Be Considered

### Florida Law Tier 1

Article III, Sections 20 and 21 of the Florida Constitution state:

**"No apportionment plan or [individual] district shall be drawn with the intent to favor or disfavor a political party or an incumbent..."**

Therefore the following will **NOT** be considered by the Florida House of Representatives in the 2011-2012 redistricting process:

- ⊖ Districts or redistricting plans drawn with the intent to favor an incumbent.
- ⊖ Districts or redistricting plans drawn with the intent to disfavor an incumbent.
- ⊖ Districts or redistricting plans drawn with the intent to favor a political party.
- ⊖ Districts or redistricting plans drawn with the intent to disfavor a political party.

For more information on Florida redistricting public participation opportunities, legislative resources, and legal concepts, visit:

[www.floridaredistricting.org](http://www.floridaredistricting.org)