



City of Jonesboro

300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Signature Copy

Resolution: R-EN-195-2021

File Number: RES-21:210

Enactment Number: R-EN-195-2021

A RESOLUTION TO RETAIN EFS GEOTECHNOLOGIES FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO REVIEW CITY OF JONESBORO WARD BOUNDARIES AND OFFER GUIDANCE ON ANY NEEDED WARD ADJUSTMENTS TO ENSURE FAIR AND EQUAL ELECTORATE REPRESENTATION

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro has experienced significant growth since ward lines were last reviewed; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the City of Jonesboro to provide the electorate with equitable representation on the City Council in accordance to Ark. Code Ann. § 14-43-311; and

WHEREAS, EFS GeoTechnologies is presently conducting a review of Justice of the Peace boundaries for the Craighead County Quorum Court, including reviewing population shifts within the city limits of Jonesboro; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro has worked with EFS GeoTechnologies in the past with satisfactory results on data and mapping projects that require resources outside the normal scope of city staff.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS THAT:

Section 1: The City of Jonesboro enter into a contract with EFS GeoTechnologies to review current ward boundaries and make potential recommendations to adjust ward lines to account for growth, population and demographic shifts for an amount not to exceed \$6,000 to be paid for out of the General Admin Professional Services budget.

Section 2: The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized by the City Council for the City of Jonesboro to execute all documents necessary to effectuate this purchase.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 4TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2021.



September 22, 2021

Brian Richardson
City of Jonesboro
300 S Church St.
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Dear Mr. Richardson,

By Arkansas Law political subdivisions of the state are required to review the boundary lines of various election districts, (City Wards, Justice of the Peace Districts and School District Zones) after each decennial census. This ensures that the citizens of the county are equally represented by their elected officials. This process is widely known as redistricting.

EFS GeoTechnologies (EFS), located in Monticello, Arkansas is working with cities, counties and school systems across the state to evaluate local voting districts. There are two basic phases to the redistricting process occurring across the state right now which EFS supports.

- I. Initially entities must determine if local voting districts are in compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the “one person-one vote” principle of the Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. Constitution. If the district is in compliance, boundary data in a digital format suitable for use in a Geographic Information System (GIS) must be submitted to the Secretary of State’s office.
- II. If it is determined those local voting districts are not in compliance with the law, then steps must be taken to bring the districts into compliance. Additionally, the results of the redistricting process must be reported to the Secretary of State’s office in a digital format suitable for use in a Geographic Information System (GIS).

Phase One

- A. The first step is to secure from you copies of data depicting the current voting zones. If the data is available in a digital GIS format, the digital data will be used in the analysis. If the data is not available in a digital GIS format, paper maps will be converted by EFS to a digital GIS format and then analyzed against the newly published 2020 US Census Bureau census block boundary data.
- B. Statistics will be calculated from the 2020 census block data for each voting zone. Statistics for each existing zone include: population, percent deviation, percent White, percent Black or African American, percent American Indian, percent Asian, percent Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander, percent Other Race, percent two or more Races. These statistics will be calculated for total population and voting age population.

- C. EFS will generate a report outlining its findings from the 2020 Census data. EFS will analyze the data and report its findings to the voting district. The voting district will decide, with the advice of their legal counsel, if they need to redistrict.
- D. If no changes need to be made to voting district boundaries EFS will deliver to the local entity digital GIS data in a topologically correct format which can be submitted to the Secretary of State. Digital data will be delivered via E-mail. Data will be formatted in accordance to the specifications set forth by the Arkansas Geographic Information Office. A series of maps in digital format will be delivered in Adobe PDF format representing the voting district boundaries as well as a map of each of the individual voting zones. Hard copy maps will be available on request.

Phase Two

- E. If changes need to be made to voting district boundaries, to bring the voting district(s) into compliance, EFS will provide options for redistricting. The entity will evaluate the options provided by EFS using local knowledge to determine appropriateness.

Note: EFS will not have local knowledge regarding the political environment required to make recommendations as to how the voting districts should be divided. Options based on a consulting relationship will be provided by EFS. These options will be created strictly from empirical data, and supplied to the local entity in order to support the decision-making process. In every case the local entity should seek advice from their legal counsel.

- F. Once a redistricting option has been chosen EFS will provide the documentation as stated in “D” above.

Phase One Pricing

EFS GeoTechnologies will perform the action steps listed under Phase One for City Wards for a price of \$2,000.00.

Phase Two Pricing

EFS GeoTechnologies will perform the action steps listed under Phase Two for City Wards for the price of \$3,000.00.



EFS GeoTechnologies
P.O. Box 90
360 Airport Road
Monticello, AR 71655
Eagle@efsgeotech.com
OFFICE: (870) 460.9994
FAX: (870) 460.9996

Optional Pricing (if requested)

- Photographic Hard Copy Prints
 - Large Format (36" X 36") - \$200.00
 - Letter (8.5" X 11") - \$7.50
 - Tabloid (11" X 17") - \$15.00
- In person consultation from an EFS professional – \$0.575 per mile plus expenses and \$85.00 per contact hour.

If the above specifications are suitable, please sign and return the agreement. Let us know if you have any questions, and thank you for the opportunity to bid on this project.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Justin Rollans".

Justin Rollans
EFS GeoTechnologies

Harold Copenhaver, Mayor
City of Jonesboro

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