



From City Council meeting . . . to the Business Council

Prepared by Rich Groves, Executive Director
North Kansas City Business Council
October 19, 2021

Note: As a reminder, the notes below represent topics that, in my judgement, might be of interest to the business community. It does not include everything that was on the agenda.

Work Session – 6:00 p.m.

Re-Districting of Wards

The goal of this work session was to review alternatives for re-districting of wards which is required of every governing body every ten years based on the every-ten-year U.S. Census. Wards must have nearly equal populations and each must be in a contiguous area.

The process of drawing new boundaries for districts used to elect members of a multi-member governmental body when changing the number of constituent districts or to equalize population among the districts.

Local Government Districts

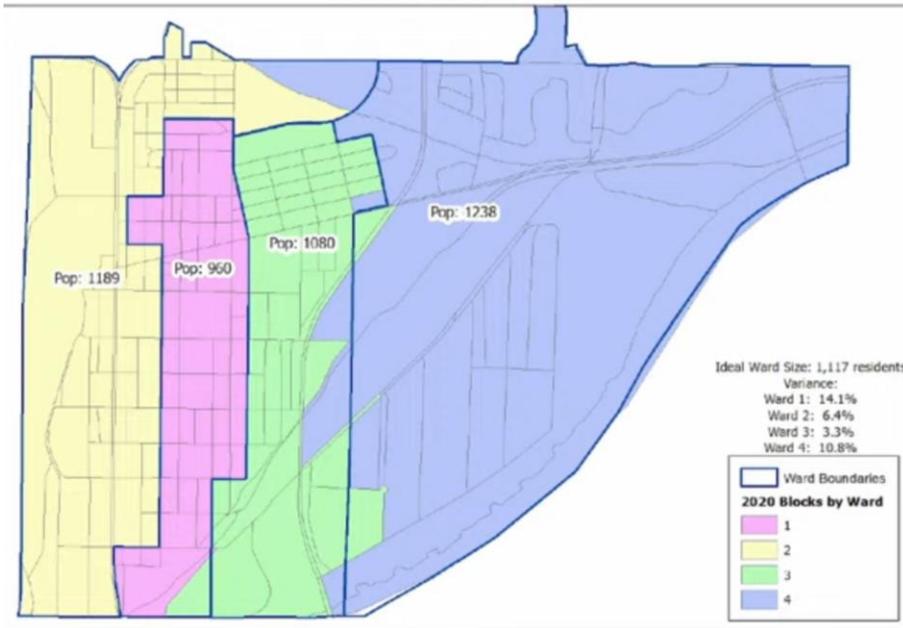
We hold today only that the Constitution permits no substantial variation from equal population in drawing districts for units of local government having general governmental powers over the entire geographic area served by the body.

Voting Rights Act of 1965

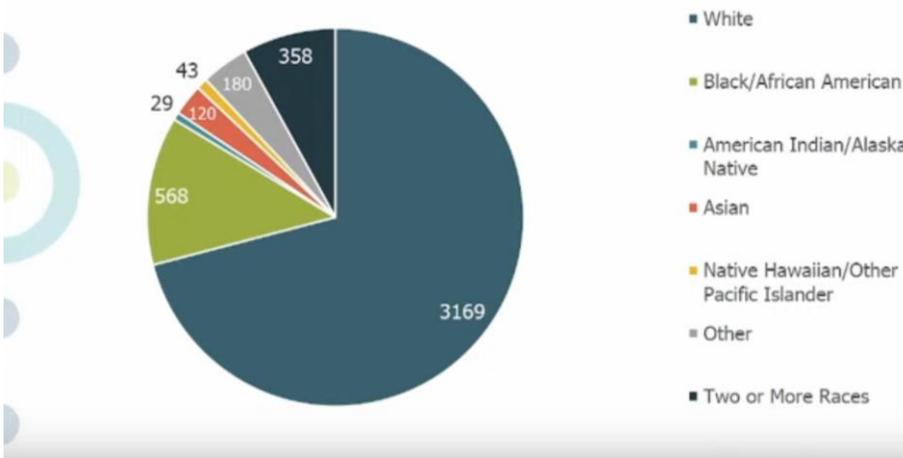
The Voting Rights Act of 1965 must be considered when drawing wards, districts or zones. The Act invalidates any "voting qualification or prerequisite to voting or standing, practice or procedure" that results in a denial or abridgement of the right to vote because of race or color.

A violation is established if, based on the totality of circumstances, it is shown that the political processes leading to nomination or election in the political subdivision are not equally open to participation by members of a class of protected citizens in that its members have less opportunity than other members of the electorate to participate in the political process and to elect representatives of their choice.

Current ward boundaries established 10 years ago with current population are shown below. The population distribution requires changes to make the wards more equal.



ork Session 10-19-21 Racial Composition



Several different alternatives were shown and explained. Final decisions must be made by December 7 after public hearings. All of these options are available to view on the City's website at the following link?
<http://www.nkc.org/common/pages/DisplayFile.aspx?itemId=18077625>

Interestingly, some of the areas which will have additional population with new apartment complexes are currently "zero population" census blocks. But re-districting cannot be based on estimated future population. It must use the population provided from the census in April 2021.

One of the City Council representatives drafted one alternative that separated the largest of the businesses in separate blocks instead of all being concentrated in Ward 4.

Regular Session

Agenda Topics

Water and Sewer Rates

These rates were reviewed in detail at a previous City Council work session. Contributing to the increases was the decision by City Council to cease using the Gaming Fund to reduce the impact on customers – both residential and commercial. Another impact is the increase in sewer rates imposed by the City of Kansas City which processes sewer water for North Kansas City.

As steep as the increases are, North Kansas City will continue to have lower rates than surrounding communities.

Proposed rates are as follows:

Rate Increases	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed
Water	20%	20%	15%	4%	4%	3%
Sewer	25%	20%	7%	7%	7%	7%

Bill Impacts	Meter Size	Volume (kgal)	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
			Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
Water Bill									
Small	5/8"	4	\$ 15.40	\$ 18.49	\$ 22.19	\$ 25.53	\$ 26.56	\$ 27.64	\$ 28.47
Medium	5/8"	15	28.06	33.74	40.52	46.67	48.58	50.60	52.20
Large	2"	50	114.16	137.25	164.86	189.87	197.68	205.72	212.29
Ingredion	10"	63,000	69,502.63	83,404.57	100,588.49	115,803.97	120,437.73	125,708.33	129,668.62
Sewer Bill									
Small	5/8"	4	\$ 38.04	\$ 47.58	\$ 57.12	\$ 61.14	\$ 65.43	\$ 70.03	\$ 74.96
Medium	5/8"	15	101.51	127.00	152.49	163.22	174.66	186.96	200.14
Large	2"	50	334.59	418.62	502.65	538.00	575.68	616.23	659.67
Ingredion	10"	53,000	306,931.28	384,061.60	461,191.92	493,639.66	528,215.64	565,450.44	605,344.68
Combined Bill									
Small	5/8"	4	\$ 53.44	\$ 66.07	\$ 79.31	\$ 86.67	\$ 91.99	\$ 97.67	\$ 103.43
Medium	5/8"	15	129.57	160.74	193.01	209.89	223.24	237.56	252.34
Large	2"	50	448.75	555.87	667.51	727.87	773.36	821.95	871.96
Ingredion	10"	63,000	376,433.91	467,466.17	561,780.41	609,443.63	648,653.37	691,158.77	735,013.30

Public Hearing on Water and Sewer Rates

Jeff Bailey, Ingredion Plant Manager, explained that the full impact of the new rates over the next 5 years will be an additional cost of \$15.5 million. He pointed out that he and other executives at Ingredion will need to plan accordingly. Ingredion is the largest customer of North Kansas City's water and sewer services – more than 50% of the total.

Proposed rates were approved.

Acquisition of property needed for Burlington Complete Street project.

Certain properties between private properties and the east side of Burlington are needed to be able to complete the infrastructure needed for construction of the Burlington Complete Street project.

Approved by a vote of 6 to 2.

Extension of Mask Mandate until November 20

It was clarified that the Mayor is empowered to terminate prior to that date but not extend the mask mandate.

Motion approved by a vote of 5 to 3.

Public Art Mural on Exltube building on Burlington

Exltube requested consideration of putting a public art mural on the southern-most Exltube building on Burlington. See the recommended mural below. Exltube offered to pay \$20,000 and the City through the Timothy C Crummett Family Charitable Fund would pay \$35,000.



Approved for an easement and for the art work.

Staff Comments

Covid-19 Report from Dr. Reintjes at North Kansas City Hospital

	Oct 13	Sept 29	Sept 15	Sept 8
Total Active COVID cases:	26	35	41	41
Total recovering COVID cases:	21	19	25	18
Total COVID patients in the ICU:	7	16	16	19
Total COVID patients on a ventilator:	4	11	14	15

NKCH is closely monitoring the increase of COVID cases affecting our community and we continue to ask for all support to encourage those who are unvaccinated to get vaccinated. We will continue to meet the healthcare needs of our community. Thank you.

The full agenda for this meeting with links to critical documents is available on the City's website www.nkc.org under the heading of Agendas and Minutes. As always, additional details about City Council agenda topics are often available as attachments on the City's website www.nkc.org and later as <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-6WpmTG2Ss> part of the approved minutes.