



**IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Baltimore County Council Announces Proposed Redistricting Map with Two Majority-Minority Districts**

Towson, MD – The Baltimore County Council announced today it has introduced legislation to adopt a final redistricting plan and map as required by the County Charter.

Pursuant to Section 207 of the County Charter, a Redistricting Commission was formed in March 2021 to recommend legislation to revise the Councilmanic districts and to provide for districts that are “compact, contiguous, and substantially equal in population, and in which due regard is given to current natural, geographic, and community boundaries.” The Commission held three virtual public hearings in June 2021 to hear directly from residents and also received additional written comments and testimony via email. The Commission also held public meetings and discussions in April, July, August, and September 2021. The Commission unanimously adopted a proposed map at its public meeting on September 30<sup>th</sup> and submitted its recommendations to the County Council on October 6, 2021.

During the past month, the County Council reviewed the Commission’s recommendations and held a virtual public hearing on October 26, 2021 to hear public input on the Commission’s recommended redistricting map. Councilmembers also reviewed the written submissions by the public and other organizations and stakeholder groups. Creating Baltimore County’s redistricting map for the next ten years has been a community-wide process. Residents throughout the County expressed their views at Council Legislative Sessions, in town-halls, and through emails and phone calls to their Councilmembers.

In response, the County Council has introduced [Bill 103-21](#), which includes a map that reflects many of the priorities and concerns expressed by County residents. The legislation and map make changes to the Commission’s map and result in two majority-minority districts, as well as two additional districts with significant minority populations. The map also unifies Towson and all the surrounding areas that identify with Towson, and – just as importantly – maintains the historic boundaries of existing communities and keeps those communities in their current districts – a concern expressed almost universally by community leaders and residents.

“Redistricting is a difficult and complex task and I want to thank my Council colleagues for their hard work and dedication in preparing the redistricting map. It takes at least five votes to adopt a redistricting bill and we all recognized that coming together on a final map would mean compromise and achieving a bipartisan consensus,” said Council Chairman Julian E. Jones, Jr. “The map we introduced today is a testament to that spirit of cooperation, and to the overall diversity and growing strength of our minority population in Baltimore County.”

The County Council will hold an additional public hearing on the legislation and map at the Council's Work Session on December 14, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. and final adoption of the redistricting plan is currently scheduled during the Legislative Session on December 20, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

For more information, please visit the Council's website or contact the County Council at 410-887-3196.

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