



P R E S S R E L E A S E

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MISSOULA COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS TO BE REDRAWN

Missoula County Commissioner districts will be examined and redrawn based on the results of the 2010 Census. In accordance with Montana Code Annotated 7-4-2102, "following each federal decennial census, the board of county commissioners shall divide their respective counties into as many commissioner districts as there are county commissioners and ensure that the districts are as compact and equal in population and area as possible." The examination and redrawing of district boundaries will be led by the County Clerk & Recorder in consultation with mapping staff from the Office of Planning and Grants.

Commissioners are elected at large, which means they must each reside in distinct districts in the county, but are elected by all county voters. "Changes to the districts won't affect who voters can elect to be a county commissioner," says Clerk and Recorder Vickie Zeier. "The changes will only affect who can file to run in each district." The proposed districts will be submitted to the four District Court Judges serving Missoula County for their review and approval.

Once new boundaries are proposed, the Commissioners will hold a public hearing in October to ensure the public has an opportunity to review the proposal. "This isn't a change that requires a public hearing, but we want to make sure voters have a chance to review these changes and understand them," says Commissioner Bill Carey.

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