

## **Brief Overview of the Independent Redistricting Committee (IRC)**

### **Background**

The Lane County Home Rule Charter requires the Lane County Board of Commissioners to draw new boundary lines for the five Lane County Commissioner positions. The new commissioner boundary lines must be drawn in such a way as to not deny any citizen equal rights. This process is called redistricting and the Lane Charter requires that it be done not less than every ten (10) years. The lines were last drawn on October 26, 2011. The Lane Charter also requires that the new commissioner boundary lines be adopted in the form of an ordinance by the Lane County Board of Commissioners.

In order to inform their process for the 2021 redistricting, the Lane County Board of Commissioners held a number of listening sessions so that they could receive public input on the process. Those listening sessions were held on September 15, 2020 and December 2, 2020.

The following were stated as some of the priorities by community members during those listening sessions:

1. The IRC should reflect the geographic, demographic, and economic diversity of Lane County;
2. The IRC should have representatives of people of color, the rural/urban, and income levels of Lane County;
3. The selection of the IRC should be neutral;
4. The IRC should develop a number of plans for the Board to consider;
5. The Lane County Board of Commissioners should be required to adopt a redistricting Plan created by the IRC and not one the Board has created;
6. The IRC should operate following the Oregon Public Meetings Law;
7. Potential IRC members should be required to complete an Oregon Government Ethics disclosure form;
8. The IRC should adopt by-laws and operate according to those by-laws.

On January 26, 2021 the Lane County Board of Commissioners decided upon a framework for the creation of the IRC and the selection of its membership. The Board decided the IRC would be composed of fifteen (15) members. Each commissioner will select one member and those five (5) will select the remaining ten (10) members. The Board also decided the IRC shall include members with the following characteristics: people of color, different ethnicity, low income, urban and rural, a variety of ages, genders and gender identification, political affiliation and non-affiliated voters, registered voters and non-registered voters.

The Board also decided that there should be widespread advertising for applicants. The Board also decided applicants would be required to complete an application form and Oregon Government Ethics disclosure form. The Board also decided the IRC would operate according to by-laws and the Oregon Public Meetings Law.

On January 26, 2021 the Lane County Board of Commissioners directed County Counsel to prepare a draft ordinance for the creation of the IRC, draft by-laws for the IRC and draft an IRC membership application for their consideration and eventual adoption.

## **Duties of the IRC**

The IRC will prepare at least two (2) but not more than four (4) proposed redistricting plans in the ordinance form for adoption by the Lane County Board of Commissioners as required by the Lane County Home Rule Charter Chapter III, section 3 subsections (d) and (e). The proposed plans must comply with the relevant law relating to redistricting, voting rights and the applicable local, state and federal requirements. The proposals must be ranked by the IRC in the order of its preference and the IRC must report to the Lane County Board of Commissioners the strengths and weaknesses of each proposal.

## **Expectations of IRC Members**

- Attend and participate in regular IRC meetings
- Demonstrate a commitment to the IRC's mission
- Follow the IRC by-laws and the Oregon Public Meetings Law

## **Time Commitment**

The redistricting plans must be developed and approved by October 26, 2021. It is expected there will be multiple meetings per month.

## **Interest Form for Independent Redistricting Committee**

The purpose of this form is to obtain information for use in making selections to the Lane County Independent Redistricting Committee. Please return this form to:

Lane County Administration  
Public Service Building  
125 East 8th Avenue  
Eugene, OR 97401

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the IRC is to develop plans for the redistricting of Lane County Commissioner district boundaries.

## **Membership Qualifications**

The Lane County Board of Commissioners is interested in having diverse representation that includes people of different racial and/or ethnic backgrounds, identities, abilities, and perspectives who bring a connection to, relationship with and advocacy for specific communities.

## **Membership Requirements**

IRC members must live within the geographical boundaries of Lane County.

## Applicant Information

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Initial Last

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City Zip

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Information in this section consisting of home addresses and phone numbers may be exempt from disclosure per ORS 192.502(3).

**How long have you lived in Lane County?** \_\_\_\_\_ **Years** \_\_\_\_\_ **Months**

**Have you ever worked for Lane County Government?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant Date

## References

Please list two references below that are knowledgeable about skills, experience, and/or perspectives related to serving on the Independent Redistricting Committee. References will be contacted as needed.

Reference 1.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference 2.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Application Questions**

On a separate page, please respond to each of the following questions in 200 words or less.

- 1) Please describe your interest in serving on the Independent Redistricting Committee.
- 2) Give a brief description of the experience or training in equity work that qualifies you for membership on this IRC. Please include any past or present involvement in relevant community groups?
- 3) Do you reside within city limits? If not, what is the nearest city?
- 4) Do you or your family have business relationships with Lane County? If so, please identify.
- 5) Complete the attached Statement of Economic Interest Report for 2021-2021.

## Optional Information

Lane County asks that you voluntarily provide the following information. The County will use this information to provide representation on the IRC from a reasonably broad spectrum of the community. Lane County is committed to reflecting diverse cultures on its boards/committees and does not discriminate against any person on the basis of gender, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, or age in employment or in admission, treatment, or participation in its programs, services, and activities.

**There is no legal obligation to provide this information.** Completion of this section is entirely voluntary and remains confidential. Providing this information will help ensure member elections represent a broad cross-section of the community.

### Age:

- ☐ 21-34
- ☐ 35-44
- ☐ 45-54
- ☐ 55-64
- ☐ 65+

### Race:

- ☐ African-American/African/Black
- ☐ Native American
- ☐ Asian ☐ Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- ☐ Hispanic/Latina(o)
- ☐ Caucasian
- ☐ Other

**Gender:** ☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Other ☐ Choose not to answer

**Disability:** ☐ No ☐ Yes If yes, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**Income:** Is your household income below \$23,550 per year? ☐ No ☐ Yes

### Please Return to:

Hard Copy  
Lane County Administration  
Public Service Building  
125 East 8th Avenue  
Eugene, OR 97401

Electronically

Email the completed application to [Stephen.Dingle@lanecountyor.gov](mailto:Stephen.Dingle@lanecountyor.gov)

**NOTE:** If you are not selected at this time, your application will be kept on file for 12 months from the date it was received and will be reconsidered as vacancies occur.