

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Lee County adjusts County Commission redistricting process to provide evening public hearing**

Fort Myers, FL, Sept. 21, 2021 – The Lee Board of County Commissioners today adjusted the previously announced schedule for public meetings at which the community can provide input on the redistricting process to provide an evening option for residents.

Four public meetings, including three public hearings, are planned as part of the redistricting process. They are:

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 5 – Public hearing to review preliminary map options
- 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 2 – Public hearing to review map options
- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16 – Public hearing to adopt new map
- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7 – Item on the Lee Board of County Commissioners agenda to certify for transmission to the Florida Secretary of State.

All hearings will be at 2120 Main St., Fort Myers, FL 33901. Please note that hearings planned at 9:30 a.m. are part of the agenda for regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of County Commissioners.

Attending in person is not the only way to share redistricting ideas. Residents can email [2021redistricting@leegov.com](mailto:2021redistricting@leegov.com), or they provide an eComment to commissioners by visiting via [www.leegov.com/bocc/meetings/agendas/ecomments](http://www.leegov.com/bocc/meetings/agendas/ecomments).

The county earlier this month launched a new website landing page to provide data, maps, information and transparency throughout the process. It can be found at [www.leegov.com/redistricting](http://www.leegov.com/redistricting).

Residents also are encouraged to sign up for Lee County’s newsletter by visiting [www.leegov.com](http://www.leegov.com) and clicking on the envelope icon. Recipients receive meeting notices with agenda links and other information. Following Lee County Government on Facebook also provides updates.

Florida law requires each county to examine the need to redistrict every 10 years following the U.S. Census. Members of the Lee BoCC are elected by voters countywide, but are seated according to five districts in which they reside.

The goal of redistricting is to readjust the population between commission districts so that no commission district includes substantially more individual residents than the others. If commission district boundary adjustments are needed, Lee County can make such changes during an odd-numbered year. Given the late release of U.S. Census data this year, the normal 10-month process will be condensed to about four months.