

1 Introduced April 12, 2011, by Councilman
2 Cusimano, seconded by Councilwoman
3 Harbison

4 **RESOLUTION R11-06**

5
6 A resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of Slidell to execute a
7 Professional Services Contract with Geographic Planning and Demographic Services, LLC
8 to perform reapportionment services.

9 WHEREAS, the Census 2010 count has been completed and the
10 reapportionment data was delivered to the State of Louisiana on February 7, 2010; and
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12 WHEREAS, the Slidell City Council, must make a determination whether
13 reapportionment is necessary with the Census 2010 population count no later than August
14 7, 2010; and
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17 WHEREAS, the Council has commissioned a study to calculate the new
18 Census 2010 population in each of the existing election districts.
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20 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Slidell City Council that the
21 Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a Professional Services Contract with Geographic
22 Planning and Demographic Services, LLC to perform reapportionment services, a copy of
23 which Contract is attached hereto and made a part hereof.
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27 **ADOPTED** this 12th day of April, 2011.

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30 Landon Cusimano
31 President of the Council
32 Councilman-at-Large

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35 Thomas P. Reeves
36 Council Administrator
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**2010 VOTING DISTRICTS REAPPORTIONMENT PLAN
FOR
The City of Slidell**

A CONTRACT TO PERFORM REAPPORTIONMENT SERVICES

March, 2011

**AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF SLIDELL, LA AND GEOGRAPHIC
PLANNING AND DEMOGRAPHIC SERVICES, LLC**

This agreement (AGREEMENT) made and entered into this 10th day of March, 2011 BY AND BETWEEN

- (1.) THE CITY OF SLIDELL, ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LOUISIANA, represented herein by the Mayor, Freddy Drennan or sometimes referred to as "The City"); and
- (2.) GEOGRAPHIC PLANNING AND DEMOGRAPHIC SERVICES, LLC, represented by Michael Hefner, Managing Owner (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "CONSULTANT"),

For and in consideration of the agreements herein, the respective appearers having full authority of their respective entities to enter into this contract, do contract as follows-

WITNESSETH WHEREAS, the City of Slidell desires to retain the CONSULTANT for the purpose of completing the 2010 City of Slidell Voting Districts Reapportionment Plan and obtaining pre-clearance of said plan from the U.S. Department of Justice as required under the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 for the City of Slidell, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Slidell, represented by the Mayor, by action taken at the March 1, 2011 City Council meeting, is authorized to enter into an agreement with Geographic Planning and Demographic Services, LLC for professional services to the City of Slidell, and;

WHEREAS, CONSULTANT, represented by Michael Hefner, is authorized to enter into contracts and agreements on behalf of Geographic Planning and Demographic Services, LLC,

NOW, THEREFORE, the City of Slidell and the CONSULTANT for the consideration, and under the conditions set forth, do agree as follows:

SCOPE OF SERVICES

A. Scope of Services

Geographic Planning and Demographic Services, LLC (GPDS) will prepare, coordinate the enactment, obtain pre-clearance from the U.S. Department of Justice, and assist in the implementation of the 2010 Redistricting Plan through the following tasks:

1. Meet with the Council to discuss the nature of the project, to identify problem areas; and, to clarify the approaches and policies to be considered during the process. Also during this meeting, general goals will be developed to guide the reapportionment activities, (i.e. equal representation, racial discrimination, gerrymandering, etc.)
2. Develop composite maps and overlays that will display: Existing 2000 City of Slidell Voting District Boundaries; and the 2010 Parish Precinct Boundaries. As few Parish precinct boundaries, as previously established, should be split in formulating the 2010 City of Slidell Voting District Boundaries.
3. Review and evaluate "U.S. Census Parish Precinct Population Counts"; with the Council to discuss the counts and initial findings; request a formal motion and vote on an ordinance to adopt the official "U.S. Census Parish Precinct Counts".
4. Develop alternative redistricting plans (maps).
 - a. If redistricting is required or if not required but requested by the City, determine the "ideal" population for each district (total persons divided by the number of election districts equals persons per election district). If each district contains equal number of persons, every citizen will be equally represented (*a 5% deviation is the goal*).
 - b. Determine the 2010 population of each existing election district based on 2010 Precinct Boundaries and 2010 Census Block Boundaries. Information used to perform this activity includes- 2000 City of Slidell Election Plan; 2010 U.S. Census Parish Census Block Population Counts and the 2010 U.S. Census Parish Precinct Visible Boundary Maps. The 2010 population of each existing Election District is determined by totaling the population counts for each precinct and census blocks which fall entirely within the Election District.
 - c. Analyze the distribution of the 2010 population in the existing 2010 Precinct Boundaries and Census Block Boundaries and 2000 Voting District Boundaries.
5. Determine the extent of reapportionment that must occur and present same to the City.
6. Reapportion those areas determined necessary by the City or by recommendation of the Consultant. In this process, Election District Boundaries will be shifted, as little as possible, until the appropriate adjustments in population occur. When these shifts occur, all efforts are made to provide for equal representation; to eliminate gerrymandering and favoritism to one political party or group; and, to guard against discrimination against racial minorities. Neighborhoods and small communities are also recognized when shifting boundary lines. To avoid dividing recognized community boundaries at inappropriate places, each neighborhood will identify its own boundaries, through a process selected by the City.
7. Continue process until all Election Districts are as equally apportioned as possible.

8. Present draft "2010 Redistricting Plan" to the City for review and comments. The City Council will approve plan or call for refinement.
9. Refine plan using the processes explained above.
10. Present refined "2010 Redistricting Plan" to the City Council for review and approval.
11. Prepare final legal descriptions of "2010 Voting Precinct and District Boundaries".
12. Prepare final copy of approved reapportionment plan and deliver to the City.
13. Assist in drafting the Plan Adoption Ordinance for consideration by the City Council.
14. Assist in all public participation efforts required throughout the process which include public hearings, community meetings, minority group contacts, and media cooperation.
15. Prepare a narrative which will contain the following:
 - a. Summary of the reapportionment process as it occurred;
 - b. Summary of the changes in the Voting Districts for 2010 as compared to the former Plan with specific explanations as to the basis for the changes;
 - c. Demographic information of the City including the total and voting age population of each affected area both before and after the change; the number of registered voters by precinct and census block both before and after the change; and estimates of total population by race;
 - d. Overview of public participation efforts which include copies of newspaper articles, public notices, public hearing proceedings, comments received concerning the changes, and minority group contacts.
16. Preparation of presentation quality maps containing the following information:
 - a. Prior and new boundaries of the voting units;
 - b. Location of racial and language minority groups;
 - c. Natural boundaries or geographical features that influenced the selection of boundaries;
 - d. Location of prior and new polling places, and;
 - e. Location of prior and new voter registration sites.
17. Prepare and submit official document containing the information required by Section 51.25, Voting Rights Act of 1965 to the U.S. Department of Justice.
18. Prepare and submit official document containing the adopted plan boundaries and plan components to the Louisiana Secretary of State's office.
19. Provide technical assistance and additional information as requested to the U.S. Department of Justice.

B. CITY OF SLIDELL RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Designate the Mayor or his designee to represent the City of Slidell for all purposes in its relationship with CONSULTANT.
2. Authorize the CONSULTANT to perform certain specific tasks, the scope of, the schedule for completion of and the fee for, being mutually agreed upon by the CONSULTANT and the City of Slidell. The scope of these tasks will be based upon the type of work delineated in this agreement and recommendations by the City. If the CONSULTANT cannot perform according to the schedule, through no fault of his own, he shall apply to the City of Slidell for an extension of time to perform. Such request shall not be unreasonably denied.
3. Furnish to CONSULTANT all existing studies, reports and other available data as well as, if possible, obtain additional reports and data as required which are pertinent to the completion of the services to be provided under the terms of this contract.
4. Arrange reasonable access to public property as required.
5. Advertise and pay for required public hearings/meetings as required by law.

C. COMPENSATION

1. CONSULTANT shall be compensated at an amount not to exceed Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred and no Dollars (\$12,900.00) for purposes of conducting the reapportionment process on behalf of the City.
2. As a means of budgetary control, the cost will not exceed the amount as specified in Section C, Paragraph 1.
3. CONSULTANT shall submit to the City an invoice for one-third the total amount agreed to in Section C.1 upon Proposal Approval, one third upon Plan Approval, with the balance due after Justice Department Section 5 Pre-Clearance approval and subsequent delivery of maps and data to the Registrar Voters and the Secretary of State for Louisiana by the CONSULTANT.
4. Invoices shall be payable to the CONSULTANT within thirty (30) days of receipt.

D. ASSIGNABILITY

The CONSULTANT shall not assign any interest in this contract and shall not transfer any interest in the same without prior written consent of the City.

E. DURATION OF AGREEMENT

This agreement shall continue in full force and effect until pre-clearance has been received from the U.S. Department of Justice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have affixed their legal hand in multiple counterparts on this 10th day of March, 2011

The City of Slidell
by:
Mayor Freddy Drennan



CONSULTANT:
Geographic Planning and Demographic
Services, LLC, by:
Michael Hefner, Managing Owner