

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-6

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LAKEWOOD ESTABLISHING FIVE CITY COUNCIL
DISTRICTS FOR A BY-DISTRICT ELECTORAL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, City Council members in the City of Lakewood have been elected historically in an “at large” system, whereby each City Council member has been elected by the voters of the entire City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has gone through a statutory process in order to convert to a “by district” electoral system, in which each City Council member must reside in and be elected by voters registered to vote in a particular district; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has conducted such process in full compliance with all applicable laws and with previous City Council actions prescribing such process, and has complied with all legal prerequisites to the adoption of this Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Each of the Recitals set forth above is true and correct.

SECTION 2. The following new sections are hereby added to Chapter 5 of Article I of the Lakewood Municipal Code:

1501. VOTING DISTRICTS. Beginning with the City Council election to be held in 2022, City Council members shall be elected from five City Council districts, with the election in three of such districts to be held in 2022, and the election in the remaining two of such districts to be held in 2024. The boundaries of such districts, and the sequencing of such elections, shall be established by City Council resolution. Each such City Council term shall have a duration of four years. No existing term of any City Council member shall be affected by the conversion to by-district elections.

1502. ELIGIBILITY TO HOLD OFFICE. A person shall not be eligible to run for or hold office as a City Council member in a district unless he or she is registered to vote in and resides within the boundaries of that district. All persons signing nomination papers or voting for a candidate for City Council must be registered to vote in the district from which the City Council member is to be elected.

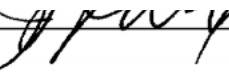
1503. ADJUSTING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES. The City Council shall adjust district boundaries when required by law, and at such other times, if any, as deemed appropriate by the City Council. All such adjustments of boundaries shall be adopted in full compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. No term of office of any City Council member shall be affected by any adjustment of district boundaries.

SECTION 3. The City Council hereby declares it would have passed this Ordinance sentence by sentence, paragraph by paragraph and section by section, and does hereby declare the provisions of this Ordinance are severable, and if for any reason any section of this Ordinance should be held invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining parts of this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby finds and determines there are no newspapers of general circulation both published and circulated within the City and, in compliance with Section 36933 of the Government Code, directs the City Clerk to cause said Ordinance within fifteen (15) days after its passage to be posted in at least three (3) public places within the City as established by Ordinance.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 16th day of November, 2021, by the following roll call vote:

	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Council Member Croft	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Council Member Pe	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Council Member Rogers	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Council Member Stuckey	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Mayor Wood	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Mayor 

ATTEST:

 u *o* *u 7*
City Clerk