From: Fluvanna County Branch NAACP
To: Clerk to the Board
Subject: Letter to the Fluvanna Board of Supervisors
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 7:39:10 PM
Attachments: image.png

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] USE CAUTION.

NAACP
Fluvanna Branch

December 12, 2021

Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 540
Palmyra, VA. 22963

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors:

Members of the Fluvanna Branch NAACP again urge members of the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors to vote to adopt an ordinance that authorizes five voting districts using scenario two.

We remain concerned over what appears to be an effort to limit citizen input and overlook the views of the community. Regrettably, there was no citizen involvement on the redistricting committee. Furthermore, your decision to select and propose a plan for establishing a sixth district before the scheduled public hearing and with no input from the community solidifies the perception that the views of taxpayers hold little sway in decisions made by our elected officials.

As you know, the expressed views of the community reflect an overwhelming preference for adopting an ordinance that provides for five districts using scenario two. For the best interest of Fluvanna County, our members urge you to maintain five voting districts, using scenario two. This scenario provides the most effective, efficient, and equitable government for Fluvanna County based on the population and demographics of the community.

Redistricting decisions are driven by population data. Fluvanna did not see population changes sufficient enough to warrant the additional cost to taxpayers that has been estimated at $70,000 per year per additional district. Furthermore, as has been asserted by Mr. Fred Payne, Fluvanna County Attorney, the five district scenario is not only easier and less costly to administer, but this scenario is also less likely to face legal challenges.

We again call on you to consider Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act. As you know, the practice of drawing maps that unfairly dilute the voting strength of protected classes is illegal. While there may be no intent to discriminate on the basis of race in determining the best scenario for the community, we ask that Board members consider the practical implications and potential for discriminatory effects of increasing the number of voting districts and diluting the vote of a protected class of voters.

Thus, we call on the Fluvanna Board of Supervisors to adopt an ordinance that establishes five voting districts using map two.

We thank you for your service to our community.

Members of the Fluvanna County NAACP Branch