

**CR-02-2021 – A Charter Resolution to Amend Article VII “Registration, Nomination, and Election Procedures” Section 707 “Ward Representation” to Repeal Single Ward Representation**

**City of Glenarden, Maryland  
2021 Legislation**

**Charter Resolution:** CR-02-2021  
**Sponsor:** Donjuan Williams, Councilman  
**Co-Sponsor:**  
**Public Hearing:** October 20, 2020  
**Session:** Regular Meeting  
**Date of Introduction:** November 9, 2020

**Charter Resolution**

**A CHARTER RESOLUTION TO AMEND ARTICLE VII "REGISTRATION, NOMINATION, AND ELECTION PROCEDURES" SECTION 707 "WARD REPRESENTATION"**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Glenarden is a municipal corporation of the State of Maryland, operating under Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and §4-301 et seq. of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland as amended; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 707 sets ward representation by identifying 3 separate wards within the City and the number of Councilmembers for each: and

**WHEREAS**, the population and needs of the City have changed, and these changes have yet to be addressed under the ward system; and

**WHEREAS**, Ward 2 experienced a significant reduction in its residency numbers due to the demolition of the Glenarden Apartments in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, Ward 2, the construction of Glenarden Hills, does not replace its residency numbers from Glenarden Apartments; and

**WHEREAS**, Ward 3 is experiencing an increase in residency due to the Woodmore Towne Centre at Glenarden development, and the construction of new homes in that area; and

**WHEREAS**, the residential changes noted above could not have been reflected in the 2010 Census since neither had been finalized; and

**WHEREAS**, changes in representation to the current ward system is not feasible until the completion of the United States Census Bureau finalizes the 2020 Census; and

UNDERLINED CAPS

~~[Brackets and strikethrough]~~

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Indicate matter added by amendment.

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Indicate matter deleted by amendment.

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44 **WHEREAS**, the Council has determined that to move toward one (1) Representative for each  
45 Ward; and four (4) Representatives At-Large will help ensure that each Councilmember consider  
46 the needs of the City as a whole rather than the parochial, or more narrow focus that has  
47 sometimes occurred in recent years; and

48  
49 **WHEREAS**, the Council seeks to develop a more unified approach as it balances the needs of  
50 the entire City; and

51  
52 **WHEREAS**, the Council believes that moving from the all ward system toward one (1)  
53 Representative for each Ward; and four (4) Representatives At-Large Councilmembers is in the  
54 best interests of the City until such time that the City is able to redistrict based on census  
55 numbers that more accurately reflect the change in population within Glenarden.

56  
57 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, that Article VII "Registration, Nomination, and  
58 Election Procedures," Section 707 "Ward Representation" of the Charter of the City of  
59 Glenarden be and it is hereby repealed, re-enacted, and amended to read as follows:

60  
61 Section 707 Ward Representation.

62  
63 **(a)**  
64 BEGINNING WITH THE ELECTION IN MAY 2021 A VOTING DISTRICT OR WARD  
65 SYSTEM SHALL BE UTILIZED WITHIN THE CITY TO ELECT ~~FIVE~~ ONE  
66 COUNCILMEMBER FOR EACH OF THE THREE WARDS. ~~TWO~~ [Four] Councilmembers  
67 and the Mayor shall be elected at large.

68 **(b)**  
69 THREE INDIVIDUAL COUNCILMANIC DISTRICTS/WARDS ARE HEREBY  
70 ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE CITY AND THE NUMBER OF COUNCILMEMBERS  
71 ELECTED TO REPRESENT EACH WARD SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

72 **(1)**  
73 WARD I SHALL BE REPRESENTED BY ~~TWO~~ ONE COUNCILMEMBERS.

74 **(2)**  
75 WARD II SHALL BE REPRESENTED BY ~~TWO~~ ONE COUNCILMEMBERS.

76 **(3)**  
77 WARD III SHALL BE REPRESENTED BY ONE COUNCILMEMBER.

78 **(c)**  
79 THE BOUNDARIES OF THE THREE WARDS SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

80 **(1)**  
81 WARD I. ALL PROPERTIES WITHIN THE CITY THAT LIE WEST OF MARTIN LUTHER  
82 KING, JR. HIGHWAY.

83 **(2)**  
84 WARD II. ALL PROPERTIES WITHIN THE CITY THAT LIE BETWEEN MARTIN  
85 LUTHER KING, JR. HIGHWAY AND BRIGHTSEAT ROAD.

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UNDERLINED CAPS : Indicate matter added by amendment.  
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86 **(3)**  
87 WARD III. ALL PROPERTIES WITHIN THE CITY THAT LIE EAST OF BRIGHTSEAT  
88 ROAD.

89 **(D)**  
90 IN ADDITION TO THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT IN SECTION 302 OF THIS  
91 CHARTER, THE FOLLOWING RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS PREVAIL.FOR WARD  
92 CANDIDATES:

93 **(1)**  
94 A CANDIDATE SHALL HAVE RESIDED IN THE WARD FROM WHICH HE OR SHE IS  
95 TO BE A CANDIDATE FOR AT LEAST 90 DAYS.

96 **(2)**  
97 A CHANGE OF RESIDENCE FROM ONE WARD TO ANOTHER DOES NOT NEGATE  
98 THE REPRESENTATION FROM THE PREVIOUS WARD UNTIL THE NEXT REGULAR  
99 OR SPECIAL ELECTION.

100 **(3)**  
101 IN THE EVENT OF DUAL RESIDENCE, A PERSON MAY BE A CANDIDATE FROM  
102 ONLY ONE WARD.

103 **(4)**  
104 A CANDIDATE MAY ONLY BE ELECTED TO REPRESENT THE WARD IN WHICH HE  
105 OR SHE RESIDES.

106  
107 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, by the City Council of  
108 Glenarden, Maryland that the amendment to the Charter of the City of Glenarden, hereby  
109 proposed by this enactment, adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020, shall be and become  
110 effective upon the fiftieth (50th) day after its passage by the City unless petitioned to referendum  
111 in accordance with §4-301 et seq. of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of  
112 Maryland within forty (40) days following its passage. A complete and exact copy of this Charter  
113 Resolution shall be posted in the City offices located at 8600 Glenarden Parkway, Glenarden,  
114 Maryland for forty (40) days following its passage by the Council and a fair summary of the  
115 Charter Resolution shall be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City not  
116 less than four (4) times, at weekly intervals, also within the forty (40) day period following its  
117 adoption by the City.

118  
119  
120 Date Approved: November 9, 2020


121  
122  
123 ATTEST:  
124  
125 M. Toni Taylor  
126 M. Toni Taylor, Council Clerk  
127

**City Council of Glenarden**  
Robin Jones  
Robin Jones, President

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela D. Ferguson, Vice-President


-NO-

\_\_\_\_\_  
James A. Herring, Councilman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah A. Eason, Councilwoman

-NO-

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carolyn Smallwood, Councilwoman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donjuan Williams, Councilman

-NO-

\_\_\_\_\_  
Celestine E. Wilson, Councilwoman

Yes 4  
No 3  
Abstain 0

\_\_\_\_\_  
UNDERLINED CAPS :  
~~[Brackets and strikethrough]~~ :

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Indicate matter deleted by amendment.