

**DETROIT CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

**PROPOSAL/ISSUE REVIEW SUMMARY**

**ISSUE NUMBER:** GOS 163

**ISSUE CATEGORY:** Government Operations & Structure

**SOURCE:** Janice Winfrey, City Clerk  
Letter, dated December 17, 2010

**RELATED CHARTER SECTIONS:** §3-106 (Geographical Basis for Electing Council  
Members)

**RELEVANT ORDINANCE SECTION:**

**RELEVANT LAW(S):** Home Rule City Act, 117.27a

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**ISSUE/PROPOSAL STATEMENT:** Elections Commission should draw and revise districts, based on additional factors of natural boundaries and other applicable law and council seats should remain at nine (9) not 11 as proposed by City Council.

**RATIONALE:** “In a city with a dwindling population, it would seem much more proportional to maintain a council with nine (9) members as opposed to increasing it to eleven (11). It is also suggested that the Election Commission draw the boundary lines for the districts for it allows each branch an opportunity to provide balanced form of representation for the city.”-*Janice Winfrey, City Clerk, Letter, dated December 17, 2010.*

**ANALYSIS:** The Home Rule City Act requires that district boundaries be drawn “as nearly of equal population, as is practicable and contiguous and compact.” 117.27a. See legal opinion regarding the drawing of district boundaries.

**DISPOSITION/COMMISSION ACTION:**

**NOTES:** See full text of City Clerk’s proposed revisions under “Proposed Revisions” tab.