

New Orleans City Council District E Redistricting Meeting
May 17, 2011

The first of two City Council District E community meetings on Redistricting was held on May 17, 2011 at St. Maria Goretti Church, from 6 – 7:30 PM. Data from the 2010 U. S. Census indicates that following Hurricane Katrina, District E's population has diminished and needs to grow by some 12,687 residents.

Councilman Jon Johnson, who represents the district, stated that he would like to see District E start East of the Industrial Canal. He encouraged residents to fully participate in the process and thanked them for their attendance at the meeting.

Redistricting LLC provided a timeline for the public input process, as well as information on redrawing the lines. Their presentation also included information on the legal requirements the Council must fulfill, as well as the traditional redistricting principles and timeline for adopting the redistricting plan.

Residents were generally in agreement with Councilman Johnson that the area should be defined beginning East of the Industrial Canal. Reacting to comments from the audience, Councilman Johnson assured residents that no matter how the lines are drawn, District D and District E council members are committed to ensuring that all efforts are made to address both the concerns and challenges of residents and neighborhoods.

Other residents took the opportunity to express frustration with the overall slow rebuilding and recovery in the district and asked that more be done to revitalize the area. Councilman Johnson indicated that a community meeting will be set up to discuss non-redistricting issues that impact the quality of life in the district.

The council deadline for adopting a Redistricting plan is targeted for August 2011.