

Town of Lincoln
62 Quaker St.
Lincoln, Vermont 05443

Characteristics for House Districts

The Lincoln BCA voted on November 11, 2021 to approve the following six characteristics for determining Legislative House Districts.

1. Two member House district where they are appropriate. We continue to support our two member district for the current Addison-4 map.
2. House districts should connect towns with common interests.
 - a. The neighboring towns share common interests with are: Starksboro, Bristol, Monkton, New Haven, Ripton, and Buell's Gore.
 - b. Our common interests include commerce, schools, geographic proximity, and the New Haven River watershed.
3. House districts should respect municipal and town boundaries as they make geographic sense. Geographic sense means that district town groupings are not bisected by a mountain range for example.
4. House districts should avoid gerrymandering. Gerrymandering by definition is manipulating district boundaries to favor a particular political party or class.
5. House districts should be drawn to maximize the efficiency of voting and minimize the costs of running elections. Towns represented by more than one district take additional time on behalf of election workers and result in higher costs for running the election.
 - a. Dividing smaller towns into separate districts makes the process of running elections more complicated.
 - b. Dividing a town may require establishing an additional polling place, and requires printing different ballots, obtaining additional tabulators or programming them for more than one ballot, and recruiting more assistant election officials to run separate voter checklists.
 - c. Tabulating election results would likely take longer on election night.
6. House districts must promote racial and socio-economic equity.

These attributes continue to be our preferences:

Submitted on 1-28-2022 by Paul Forlenza,

Paul Forlenza

Chair, Lincoln BCA

Vice Chair, Lincoln Selectboard

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