

POSSIBLE CHANGES TO VIRGINIA BEACH'S VOTING SYSTEM

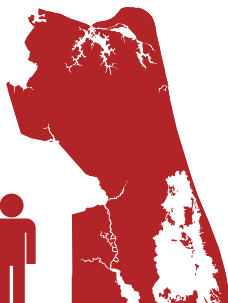
New state law and a recent order by a federal judge mean the existing local voting system in Virginia Beach will be different next year, though it is not yet certain how. The city recently announced it will appeal a decision in a federal case that found its system violated the rights of minority communities to have a fair say in elections. Two potential systems may be considered by the court. Either would likely include "minority influence districts." This compares the existing system and two potential systems that could define how Virginia Beach residents vote for local officials in the future.

7-4 SYSTEM

The system Virginia Beach currently uses:

MAYOR AND THREE AT-LARGE COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Elected citywide
- Candidates can live anywhere in the city.



SEVEN EXISTING COUNCIL DISTRICTS

- Elected citywide
- Candidates must live in the districts in which they run.



10-1 SYSTEM

The system being sought by the plaintiffs in the suit:

MAYOR

- Elected citywide
- A candidate for mayor can live anywhere in the city.



TEN WARDS

- Candidates must live in the wards in which they run.
- Only voters in each ward can vote in that race.

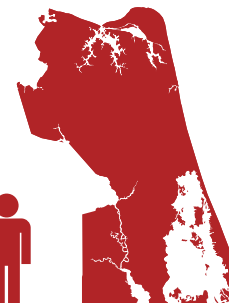


7-3-1 SYSTEM

A system that could be recommended to the court by the city:

MAYOR

- Elected citywide
- A candidate for mayor can live anywhere in the city.



SEVEN WARDS

- Candidates must live in the wards in which they run.
- Only voters in each ward can vote in that race.



THREE SUPERWARDS

- Candidates must live in the superwards in which they run.
- Only voters in each superward can vote in that race.
- Superwards overlap two or more of the seven wards.

