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# LGBTQ+ Metrics

**Initial metrics for LGBT metropolitan area hubs.**

In order to quickly decipher some overall distinctions between the different redistricting opportunities within a metro area, we have to look at characteristics of the local LGBTQ+ community and if they are densely populated within the area, if they have districted election systems that will be subject to redistricting in 2021-2022, how a public process and openness and transparency in the local or state redistricting laws will benefit the project, any history of discriminatory policies or anti-LGBTQ messaging in campaigns which would bolster the claim, any local redistricting activism in past redistricting, and, as an added plus, the prevalence of LGBTQ elected officials in the agencies we are targeting.

In order to make this more easily identifiable in a document covering dozens of potential targets, we have a six-digit score, with a plus for any identifiable local elected officials from the LGBTQ region.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community |
|  | - Agency Has districted Elections |
|  | - Public Redistricting Process |
|  | - Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination |
|  | - Prior Participation in Redistricting |
|  | - Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials |

This scoring is then used to organize the potential target regions.

# Atlanta, GA | 4/6

Atlanta, GA is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics.

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** in Midtown, Ansley Mall, Cheshire Bridge, Decatur, Piedmont Park |
|  | - **Districted Elections** in Fulton County, City of Atlanta and Atlanta School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** in City of Atlanta with public hearing and comments. |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** in religious community and with “religious freedom act” allowing discrimination. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – none found |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – historically, but none currently |

### Districted Election Systems

Atlanta has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Fulton – 6 districted Commissioners, at-large chairman, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Atlanta/Fulton%20County%20Commissioner%20Districts.pdf?role=personal>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Atlanta/Fulton%20County%20Commission%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Atlanta – 12 districted Council Members, 3 at-large members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <http://cbatl.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/All-Districts-768x1031.jpg>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Austin/Austin%20City%20Council%20Districts%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Atlanta School District Board – 6 districted elected members, 3 at-large elected members, four-year terms
  + Current map: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Atlanta/Atlanta%20Board%20of%20Education%20Map.pdf?role=personal>

### Redistricting Process

**State of Georgia -** unknown

**Fulton County -** unknown

**City of Atlanta -** city council-based redistricting process: <https://www.atlantaga.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=232>

Every 10 years, as a result of each U.S. Census, cities across America are tasked with the need to re-draw boundary lines of its representative areas, to achieve a balance of populations (+ - 5%) within each district. Our City’s governing body, the Atlanta City Council will create and review a variety of maps and will ultimately select a single map which will ensure that Atlanta’s citizens have fair and balanced representation. This map will be presented as a part of City Charter amending legislation that will outline the new district boundaries, resulting from the 2011 decennial census. The Municipal Clerk coordinates the City’s redistricting efforts. The Planning Department provides statistical analysis and technical assistance in the mapping process. The Law Department provides legal counsel and required DOJ submissions. Public hearings and a citizen comment web page will afford Atlanta’s citizens an opportunity to have their voices heard in the City of Atlanta 2011 Redistricting process.

**Atlanta School Board -** Unknown

### LGBTQ Elected Officials

**Cathy Woolard** (born May 10, 1957) is an American politician who served as a member of the Atlanta City Council for District 6 from November 1998 to 2002, and as President of the Council from 2002 to 2004. When she began her term in 1997, she was the first openly-gay elected official in Georgia history, and she was the first woman to be President of the Council.

### LGBTQ Community of Interest

There are several LGBTQ Communities within Atlanta:

*Midtown*: Origin of LGBT activity in the city. 10th and Piedmont considered the first place most lgbt go to in Atlanta. Cultural hub for the city

*Ansley Mall, Cheshire Bridge*: Most of the LGBT clubs and bars are in this area.

*Decatur*: One of the top ten areas in the nation for highest percentage of same sex couples in it.

*Piedmont Park*: one of the marquee recreational venues in Atlanta, is brimming with gay patrons, sports leagues and special events year-round.

### LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations

There are a number of local organizations in the Atlanta area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

* [The Health Initiative](https://healthinitiativeusa.org/)provides education, advocacy, support and improved access to care to Georgia’s Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) community. Founded in 1996, they are the largest non-profit organization in the southeast devoted solely to the health and wellness of LGBTQ people.
* [Georgia Equality](https://georgiaequality.org/)works to advance fairness, safety and opportunity for Georgia’s lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and allied communities. As Georgia’s largest statewide LGBT advocacy group, we work toward our mission through two partner organizations: Georgia Equality, Inc. and the Equality Foundation of Georgia. Georgia Equality, Inc. undertakes political action to build a fair majority in Georgia and the Equality Foundation of Georgia supports the Campaign for a Fair Majority through education, training, and analysis.
* [Atlanta Pride](https://www.atlantapride.org/)works to provide lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender persons with cultural and educational programs and activities which enhance mental and physical health, provide social support, and foster an awareness of the past and present contributions of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender persons, through community activities and services, including an annual Pride event.

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Baltimore.

Park Cannon – GA House of Representatives, 2016-

Lesbian State Representative and one of five considered to replace John Lewis. Current District is in leadership of Atlanta

Antonio Brown – Atlanta City Council, 2019-

Jeff Graham: Exec. Director of Georgie Equality, has been advocating on LGBT and AIDS related issues since the mid-80s as a college student and is now considered one of the most powerful activists in the Atlanta area.

Malik Brown: first-ever Director of LGBTQ Affairs, appointed by Mayor Keisha Lance in November 2020

### Local Redistricting Resources

Atlanta has a number of redistricting experts and companies doing redistricting. Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

*Bryan L. Sells* ([bryan@bryansellslaw.com](mailto:bryan@bryansellslaw.com)) – civil rights lawyer specializing in voting rights, election law, and redistricting.

*Atlanta Employment Lawyers Parks, Chesin & Walbert* (404-873-8000) – voting rights lawyers

### Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies

*Anti-Gay Church spreading hate speech*

<https://www.wsbtv.com/news/2-investigates/metro-atlanta-church-may-soon-be-listed-on-national-list-of-hate-groups/911741190/>

*Anti-Gay Pastor Jamal Bryant, compared being gay to drug addiction* <https://www.gpb.org/news/2019/02/15/norcross-church-could-soon-join-national-list-of-hate-groups>

*Controversial “Religious Freedom Act” essentially legalizes discrimination based on sexuality*  <https://apnews.com/article/b588b00d0728401d95e42bcb39749cdd>

Common Cause- https://www.commoncause.org/georgia/democracy-wire/redistricting-reform-where-do-we-go-from-here/

In Georgia, politicians have done an exceptional job at using redistricting to protect their own power and eliminate the competition. This is called gerrymandering and it’s a threat to our democracy. For some, the fight for fair districts in Georgia seems like a pipe dream. Though the shifting political climate has some Democratic hopefuls ready to upset Republican controlled districts, Republicans believe they’ll maintain the majority in 2020.

Some states have turned to nonpartisan independent redistricting commissions to take up redistricting efforts to ensure that power flows from the people to the representatives. In the last legislative session, Democrats in the House and Senate introduced resolutions to create an independent redistricting body made up of Democrats, Republicans, and unaffiliated voters. Neither resolution received a hearing.

Common Cause Georgia is pushing a statewide educational tour surrounding the issues and solutions to help alleviate gerrymandering. This will be an opportunity for folks to attend a town hall to learn about redistricting reform and a discussion of Georgia’s new voting system. It’s a statewide initiative where we will ask people to attend the town hall, sign the pledge, attend a meeting with their state legislators, and to continue to apply pressure to their representatives.

Common Cause is taking a grassroots approach to encourage local elected officials to take up a resolution for a local independent redistricting commission. As of today, 54 jurisdictions have established or used local redistricting commissions. The push for these redistricting commissions shows the power that the people have. This fall, Common Cause Georgia and our partners will push representatives to sign our pledge to “support and advance fair redistricting that is transparent, non-discriminatory, and politically impartial.”

# Austin, TX | 5/6



Austin, TX is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** in Downtown Austin |
|  | - **Districted Elections** in the County of Travis, City of Austin, and Austin School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** in the City of Austin which has a robust independent citizens redistricting commission, as well as Travis County which holds public hearings |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Texas does not protect LGBT people from discrimination. Religious groups have sued Austin over the City’s protections. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – openly gay member on the City Council and two openly gay members of the Legislature that represent the Austin area |

### Districted Election Systems

Austin has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Travis – 4 districted Council Members, at-large Judge, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.traviscountytx.gov/maps/gis-comm-pct>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Austin/Travis%20County%20Comisssioner%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Austin – 10 districted Council Members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.austintexas.gov/GIS/CouncilDistrictMap/>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Austin/Austin%20City%20Council%20Districts%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Austin School District Board – 9 at-large appointed members, four-year terms
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Austin/Austin%20School%20Board%20Map.zip?role=personal>

### Redistricting Process

**State of Texas**

**County of Travis**

County Commissioners are responsible for drawing boundaries.

**City of Austin**

* Independent Citizens Redistricting Committee
  + 14 citizen members are appointed through an open application process overseen by auditors
  + Boundaries must be contiguous and respect communities of interest
  + The place of resident of incumbents may not be considered in line drawing
  + Plan that is adopted by commission has the force and effect of law – City Council may not alter boundaries
  + If commission cannot adopt a plan, the City Attorney will petition State Court to draw a plan

### LGBTQ Elected Officials

* Erin Zwiener, TX House Member, 2019-

Bisexual member of the TX House, representing Austin’s 45th District.

* Celia Israel, TX House Member, 2015-

Lesbian member of the TX House, representing Austin’s 50th District.

* Jimmy Flanigan, Austin City Council, 2017-

First openly gay member to serve on the Austin City Council, represented district 6.

### LGBTQ Community of Interest

* East Austin
* Clarksville
* Zilker/ Barton Hills
* South Congress
* Downtown Austin

*“Massive events such as the Austin City Limits Festival and South by Southwest (SXSW) have helped put Austin on the map. If you’re not planning on attending, you should bear in mind that these events could be a hindrance as hotels in Austin book up fast, prices skyrocket, and everywhere gets pretty crowded. Austin has four major neighborhoods that you should explore, all of which are extremely gay-friendly and will give you a look into local life in Austin. These are East Austin, Clarksville, South Congress, and Downtown Austin, and each has its own distinct flavor.”* -<https://queerintheworld.com/gay-austin-travel-guide/>

LGBT COI Data:

* 4th St. or the Warehouse districts are the two areas with the most gay bars/ clubs
* Does not have a true “gayborhood” as most lgbtq+ populated are stretched across the city
* One of the most progressive cities in America
* Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity is protected under private employment, city employment, housing, public accommodations and city contractors

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

[Austin Outpost](https://www.austinoutpost.org/)

[Austin LGBT Chamber](https://austinlgbtchamber.com/)

[Out Youth](https://www.outyouth.org/)

[PFLAG Austin](https://pflagaustin.org/)

[Allgo](https://allgo.org/)

[TGQ Social](https://www.facebook.com/TGQSocial/)

[The Q Austin](https://www.asaustin.org/)

[Lesbian & Gay Peace Officers Association](https://www.asaustin.org/)

[Austin Gay and Lesbian Pride Foundation](https://austinpride.org/)

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Austin.

*Individuals*

* Tina Cannon, exec director of the Austin LGBT Chamber of Commerce
* Christine Henry Anderson, family law attorney representing LGBTQ+ clients
* Ricardo Martinez, CEO of Equality Texas
* Christian Mendoza, works with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer,/Questioning and allied communities to promote cooperation and collaboration between the Austin Police Department, residents, community-based organizations, city leadership, and other City of Austin Departments and services. In addition to his public safety foci, Christian provides extensive technical assistance and consultation services on City operations that are of importance to LGBTQ communities, including public health, human resources, and economic development. As Staff Liaison to the LGBTQ Quality of Life Commission, Christian coordinates and supports the Commission’s executive leadership, public meetings, agendas, work plans, and policy recommendations.

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Moriah Powers ([mpowers@lwvaustin.org](mailto:mpowers@lwvaustin.org)) – Austin League of Women Voters

Anthony Gutierrez ([mpowers@lwvaustin.org](mailto:mpowers@lwvaustin.org)) – Common Cause Texas

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

* In 1973, the Texas Family Code was amended by *House Bill 103* to explicitly state that a marriage license may only be issued to a man and a woman.
* In 1997, Texas banned the issuance of marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Additional legislation in 2003 forbade the recognition of any same-sex marriages or civil unions. In 2005, voters approved a referendum that added those restrictions to the Texas Constitution.
* As of 2013, Texas state law does not protect employees from discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. Since at least 1999, no bill prohibiting discrimination by employers based on sexual orientation or gender identity has made it out of the committee stage in the Texas Legislature.
* Texas state law does not protect persons from housing or public accommodations discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender identity or expression. House Bill 2215 introduced by Representative Jessica Farrar in the Legislature's 2009 regular session would have prohibited this kind of discrimination; however, the bill died in the Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence committee of the House of Representatives.
* Texas state law also does not protect persons from insurance discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender identity or expression. During the Legislature's 2013 regular session, House Bill 206 introduced by Representative Senfronia Thompson, House Bill 541 introduced by Representative Robert Alonzo, and Senate Bill 73 introduced by Senator Rodney Ellis would have prohibited this kind of discrimination; however, all these bills died in their respective committees.
* As of May 2019, a bill is pending in the Texas Legislature which would allow state-licensed professionals to refuse to serve members of the LGBTQ community on grounds of religious objections.
* Church attempted to sue the state in hopes of overturning the nondiscrimination ordinance that protects anyone based on sexual orientation or gender (dropped the lawsuit).
* <https://www.statesman.com/news/20181008/pastors-group-seeks-to-overturn-austins-lgbt-hiring-protections>

# Baltimore, MD 4/6

Baltimore, MD is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** in the neighborhood of Mount Vernon |
|  | - **Districted Elections** in the County of Baltimore and City of Baltimore |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** in the County of Baltimore |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – three openly gay members of the Legislature that represent the Baltimore area |

### Districted Election Systems

Baltimore has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Baltimore – 7 districted Council Members, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <http://resources.baltimorecountymd.gov/Documents/infotech/gis/Elections/PoliticalDistricts.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Baltimore/Baltimore%20County%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Baltimore – 14 districted Council Members, at-large President, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://cityservices.baltimorecity.gov/citycouncil/images/new_council_mediumF.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Baltimore/Baltimore%20Council%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood PDF: <https://planning.baltimorecity.gov/sites/default/files/Neighborhood%20Statistical%20Areas%201216.pdf>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Baltimore/Baltimore%20Neighborhoods.zip?role=personal>
* Baltimore School District Board – 9 at-large appointed members, three-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Maryland**

**County of Baltimore**

County Council Redistricting Commission is comprised of five members who are appointed by Members of the Council. Elected officials are not allowed to serve on the board. Three public hearing are required. Councilmanic Districts “shall be compact, contiguous, and substantially equal in population, and due regard is given to current natural, geographic, and community boundaries.”

<http://resources.baltimorecountymd.gov/Documents/CountyCouncil/Redistricting/redistricting%20manual.pdf>

**City of Baltimore**

* Mayor presents redistricting plan
  + If City Council rejects Mayor’s plan, they may adopt their own plan
  + Council must adopt a plan within 60 days or Mayor’s plan goes into effect
  + Council lines must respect incumbents’ place of residence

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Maggie McIntosh – Maryland’s 43rd District Delegate, 1992-

*First openly gay elected official in the Maryland Legislature, representing Baltimore. First openly gay Appropriations Committee Chairman. Co-sponsor of gay marriage legislation.*

Luke Clippinger – Maryland’s 46th District Delegate, 2011-

*Elected in 2010 to Represent Downtown Baltimore in the Legislature. Strong advocate for public education funding.*

Mary Washington - Maryland’s 43rd Senate District, 2019-

*First openly gay black member of the Maryland Legislature, elected to represent Baltimore in the House of Delegates in 2010. Elected to serve in the Maryland Senate in 2018.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Baltimore’s most LGBTQ inclusive neighborhood is Mount Vernon.

Baltimore Sun observes:

*For decades, Mount Vernon was widely considered Baltimore's most prominent and safest area for the LGBT community to live, work and socialize. It has been home to the city's most well-known gay bars, LGBT-friendly services and, for years, the festivities of the annual Baltimore Pride celebration.* <https://www.baltimoresun.com/features/bs-ae-lgbt-neighborhoods-20170417-story.html>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Maryland Pride Center: <http://www.pridecentermd.org/>

Baltimore Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://www.baltimoremenschorus.org/>

Maryland LGBT Chamber of Commerce: <https://mdlgbt.org/>

Baltimore Pride: <http://baltimorepride.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Baltimore.

Maryland Pride Center: <http://www.pridecentermd.org/staff-board/>

*Individuals*

Merrick Moses – President of Maryland Pride Center Board

Caite Debevec– Musical Director of Gay Men’s Chorus

Keron Sadler – Maryland LGBT Chamber of Commerce CEO

Mimi Demissew – Executive Director of Baltimore Pride

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Flo Valentine ([info@lwvbaltimorecity.org](mailto:info@lwvbaltimorecity.org)) – Co-President of Baltimore LWV

Joanne Antoine ([Jantoine@commoncause.org](mailto:Jantoine@commoncause.org)) – Executive Director of Common Cause MD

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Birmingham, AL 2/6

Birmingham, AL is not a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 2 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** None. |
|  | - **Districted Elections** in the County of Jefferson, City of Birmingham, and the Birmingham School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** in the City of Birmingham. Public hearings and comment is required. |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – openly gay man representing Birmingham’s 54th House District in the legislature |

**Districted Election Systems**

Birmingham has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Jefferson – 5 districted commissioners, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.jccal.org/Sites/Jefferson_County/Documents/Main/countydistricts.pdf>
  + District Shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Birmingham/Jefferson%20County%20Commiss%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Birmingham – 9 districted Council Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.birminghamal.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/District-Maps-1-9.pdf>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Birmingham/Birmingham%20Council%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood map: <https://data.birminghamal.gov/dataset/birmingham-community-maps/resource/b79609c5-bf46-41f6-acb1-39c706fd8028>
  + Neighborhood shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Birmingham/Birmingham%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Birmingham School District Board – 9 elected districted members, four-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Alabama**

* Redistricting plan must be available for public inspection for two consecutive weeks

**County of Jefferson**

* Commission has sole discretion on drawing lines, however, must be 5 districts

**City of Birmingham**

* City Council President has sole power over redistricting
  + Districts must be contiguous, “reasonably” compact, and “reasonably” equally populated
  + Must be a public hearing on proposed map before enactment

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Patricia Todd – Alabama’s 54th House District, 2006-2018

Elected *Alabama’s first openly gay politician in 2006, representing Birmingham. Started career as first executive director of Birmingham AIDS Outreach.*

Neil Rafferty – Alabama’s 54th House District, 2018-

Elected *Alabama’s first openly gay male politician in 2018, representing Birmingham. Started career as research and development for Birmingham AIDS Outreach.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Birmingham doesn’t have a “gayborhood,” but Downtown Birmingham is the most LGBTQ-friendly.

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Magic City Acceptance Center: <http://www.magiccityacceptancecenter.org/>

Birmingham AIDS Outreach: <https://www.birminghamaidsoutreach.org/>

Magic City Wellness Center <https://www.magiccitywellnesscenter.org/>

Central Alabama Pride: <https://www.centralalabamapride.org/>

Steel City Men’s Chorus: <https://steelcitymenschorus.org/ps/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Birmingham.

Birmingham AIDS Outreach: <https://www.birminghamaidsoutreach.org/board-of-directors>

*Individuals*

Tracee Synco – Chair of Birmingham AIDS Outreach Board

Karen Musgrove – Director of Magic City Wellness Center

Justin Musgrove – President of Central Alabama Pride

Robert Hill – Chair of Steel City Men’s Chorus Board

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Deborah Turner – President of Alabama LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Boise, ID 4/6

Boise, ID is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 3 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** None found. |
|  | - **Districted Elections** in the County of Ada and City of Boise |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Ada and City of Boise |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – LGBT witch hunt in the 1950s and state sued federal government over LGBT protections |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Openly gay man representing Birmingham’s 16-A House District in the legislature |

**Districted Election Systems**

Boise has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Ada Commissioners – 3 districted Council Members, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://adacounty.id.gov/commissioners/wp-content/uploads/sites/35/district-map-full-size-4.png>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Boise/Ada%20County%20Commiss%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
* City of Boise – 6 at-large members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
* Boise School District Board – 7 at-large appointed members, seven-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Idaho**

According to the Idaho Constitution, no member may be an elected or appointed official while serving on the commission. The state constitution further requires that the commission produce draft congressional and state legislative maps within 90 days of the commission's formation. There is no explicit deadline for final plans.

The state constitution requires that state legislative districts "be contiguous, and that counties be preserved intact where possible." State statutes require that both congressional and state legislative districts meet the following criteria:

County lines must be maintained "to the extent possible."

Districts must "preserve traditional neighborhoods, communities of interest, and (if possible) voting precinct boundaries."

Districts should not be "oddly shaped."

In districts comprising more than one county or a portion thereof, "those constituent pieces must also be connected by a state or federal highway."

**County of Ada**

**City of Boise**

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

John McCrostie– Member of Idaho House, 2014-

*First openly gay man to be elected to the Idaho Legislature, representing Boise’s House District 16-A.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the Downtown/Midtown area. Many gay travel websites recognize the Downtown area as a vibrant place where LGBT and non-LGBT businesses intertwine.

<https://boise.gaycities.com/>

Located in southwestern Idaho, Boise is a big city with a small town feel--or maybe it's a small town with a big city feel? Either way, visitors to Boise enjoy a growing art scene and a liberal environment surrounded by breathtaking natural environment. Gay culture tends to revolve around the downtown area, where Boise's gay and non-gay nightlife intermingles.

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

[The Community Center](https://tccidaho.org/)

The Community Center was founded in December 1983 with the mission of uniting and supporting Idaho’s LGBTQ community through educational and developmental programs, and by providing resources to the community. The center hosts regular monthly group meetings and activities as well, and actively seeks to bring the community together in celebration and support of the LGBTQ community and all that it adds to the city.

[The Idaho Pride Foundation](https://pridefoundation.org/region/idaho/)

Since 1985, The Idaho Pride Foundation has been working tirelessly to advance LGBTQ causes and push for LGBTQ equality across the state of Idaho. In furtherance of this mission, Idaho Pride proudly partners with many local organizations and leaders across the state of Idaho who share its vision of a world in which all LGBTQ people can live openly, safely, and genuinely.

[Boise Pridefest](https://www.boisepridefest.org/)

Boise Pridefest is the city’s largest annual pride celebration, and for more than 30 years, it has been a can’t-miss event. The festival strives to promote unity and celebrate the diversity and unity of all people of all orientations in Boise. The festival, with its parades, parties, and other events, draws huge crowds each year – often around 80,000 attendees.

Two famous Gay Bars/Clubs are known as “Balcony” and “Neurolux”

**LGBTQ Leadership:**

“Javier Smith, (he/him/they), has been involved with the Boise LGBT community since moving here in 1993 from northern Idaho. He served on the board of Your Family, Friends, & Neighbors (YFFN) where he helped organize Pride, helped start the Youth Alliance for Diversity, worked on the Anti-Violence Project, and a number of other community projects. He currently serves on the board of The Community Center and also allies linked for the prevention of HIV and AIDS (a.l.p.h.a.) which he helped start back in 2001.”

“Natalie Perry, (she/her/hers), believes in a future where queer families are equal and no longer have to hide in the closet out of fear. Born and raised in conservative Idaho, she aspires to reduce discrimination against LGBTQ+ families through the power of education and sharing her own family story. Natalie is a 2nd Gen queerspawn: when she was 12 years old her dad came out to her immediate family as gay . She is Pan-Demisexual and Greyromantic and is also an advocate for the Bi+ and Asexual (Ace)/Aromantic (Aro) communities. Natalie is an author, abstract artist, and public speaker. She previously represented Idaho on the Western Region Advisory Council for Family Equality. In 2018 she gave the first queerspawn talk on a TED affiliated stage in the United States. She currently participates in LGBTQ+ Families Day, is a COLAGE Ambassador and a Core Team member of Our Family App, a global and intersectional app for LGBTQ+ families .”

“Stephanie Grover, (she/her/hers), is a femme identified queer licensed social worker in the Boise community originally from the East Coast. Settling in Idaho a few years ago via Denver, CO with her partner, she has since expanded their family to include Cat and Jax, their furry children and many house plants. Stephanie volunteers in the community with several local LGBTQ+, outdoor and youth organizations. You can find her often on hikes around Boise, making/eating vegan food and working on a cure for her mildly green thumb. Stephanie works with the volunteers at TCC, as well as events and outreach at TCC. If you’ve emailed TCC, you’ve probably spoken to her!”

**Local Redistricting Resources**

<https://legislature.idaho.gov/redistricting/>

[Interesting Article](https://www.idahopress.com/eyeonboise/proposed-constitutional-amendment-on-redistricting-wouldnt-change-commission-just-fix-number-of-districts-at-the/article_19fc3fdc-f95c-53c1-ac41-79f275acdfe2.html)

Crystal Callahan ([LWVGreaterBoiseArea@gmail.com](mailto:LWVGreaterBoiseArea@gmail.com)) – Boise LWV President

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

[The Boise Homosexuality Scandal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boise_homosexuality_scandal)

*Idaho AG, congressman join federal legal fight over LGBTQ worker protection*

https://www.idahostatesman.com/news/politics-government/state-politics/article234438652.html

# Boston, MA 5/6

Boston, MA is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** in the neighborhood of the South End/Tremont Street |
|  | - **Districted Elections** in the City of Boston |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** in the City of Boston |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – City hosted a “straight parade” in 2019 |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – openly lesbian member of the Boston City Council |

**Districted Election Systems**

Boston has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* City of Boston – 9 districted Council Members, 4 at-large members, at-large mayor, two-year terms.
  + Current Map: <http://www.bostonplans.org/getattachment/a14f93b5-9d5a-4801-962c-37386895b030/>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Boston/Boston%20City%20Council%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods Map:  
    <http://www.bostonplans.org/getattachment/64c37bd1-21ac-4ec1-9e3b-5fdbcc135823/>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Boston/Boston_Neighborhoods.zip?role=personal>
* Boston Public Schools – 7 appointed at-large members, four-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Massachusetts**

**City of Boston**

* City Council Redistricting Committee in charge of enacting plan on behalf of Council
  + 8 Council Members serve

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Elizabeth Breadon – Boston City Council, 2020-

*Boston City Council’s first openly gay woman to be elected.*

Althea Garrison – Boston City Council, 2019-2020

*America’s first ever transgender state legislator in 1993. Appointed to Boston City Council (at-large) following vacancy left by Council Member Ayanna Pressley.*

Barney Frank – Member of US Congress, 1981-2011

*First openly gay member of Congress. Represented Newton, MA in Congress.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the South End neighborhood.

Gay Cities observes:

*The Boston gay bar and club scene is scattered throughout town, but the South End and Tremont Street area is the traditional gay neighborhood.* <https://boston.gaycities.com/>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Dignity Boston: <https://www.dignityboston.org/>

LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Massachusetts: <http://malgbtcc.org/#1>

Boston Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://www.bgmc.org/>

Boston Pride: <https://www.bostonpride.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Boston.

Dignity Boston: <https://www.dignityboston.org/page/contact-us>

*Individuals*

Mary Beth C. – President of Dignity Boston

Linda DeMarco – President of Boston President

James Lopata- Chairperson of Massachusetts LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Craig Coogan- Executive Direction of Boston Gay Men’s Chorus

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Kerry Costello ([kcostello@aps1.net](mailto:kcostello@aps1.net)) – Boston LWV President

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Boston 'straight pride' parade dwarfed by large counter-protest*

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/sep/01/boston-straight-pride-parade-arrests>

# Chicago, IL 6/6

Chicago, IL is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 6 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Boystown |
|  | - **Districted Elections** in the County of Cook and City of Chicago |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** in the City of Chicago |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Mayor Lightfoot was attacked for being LGBTQ+ in the mayoral election |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – The Civil Rights Agenda (TCRA) lobbied for LGBT inclusion in 2011 |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – The Mayor of Chicago, several members of the City Council, and several members of the legislature are openly LGBTQ+ |

**Districted Election Systems**

Chicago has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Cook Commission – 17 commissioners, at-large, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.cookcountyclerk.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/UPDATED_Cook_County_Commissioners_2012_w_2017_names01232018.pdf>
  + GIS Shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Chicago/Cook%20County%20Comissioners%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Chicago – 7 Council Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://app.chicagoelections.com/documents/general/City%20Wide%20Ward%20Map%202012.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Chicago/Chicago%20Ward%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods PDF Map:  
    <https://www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/depts/doit/general/GIS/Chicago_Maps/Citywide_Maps/City_Neighborhoods_1978_11x17.pdf>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Chicago/Chicago%20Neighborhoods.zip?role=personal>
* Chicago Public Schools Board – 7 at-large appointed Board Members, four-year terms.

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Illinois**

**County of Cook**

Not a lot of available information online, but seems like Cook Commission has total control of redistricting.

**City of Chicago**

City Council has full control of redistricting. However, there is a lot of momentum for establishing an independent commission for 2020 including an endorsement from Mayor Lightfoot.

If the Council cannot get 40/50 votes to adopt a map, maps are submitted to voters to decide.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Lori Lightfood – Mayor of Chicago, 2019-  
*Chicago’s first openly gay mayor and first African-American female mayor. Started career as a federal prosecutor and served on police accountability board.* <https://news.wttw.com/2019/05/20/profile-chicago-mayor-lori-lightfoot>

Greg Harris – Rep. for 13th State House District, 2007-

*Majority Leader in the IL House of Representative. Represents Chicago’s North Side.*

Kelly Cassidy – Rep. for 14th State House District, 2011-

*Openly gay representative for Chicago’s North Side. Started career working for the National Organization of Women (NOW).*

Tom Tunney – Alderman for 44th Ward, 2003-  
*First elected openly gay Alderman on Chicago Council – representing Boystown. Began career by helping people with HIV and AIDS through programs he created. Founded the White Crane Wellness Center.*

James Cappleman – Alderman for 46th Ward, 2011-  
*Represents Uptown and Lakeview Neighborhoods. Graduated Harvard as an LGBTQ Victory Institute Fellow. Fought to ensure transgender access to public bathrooms.*

Lamont Robinson – Rep. for 5th State House District, 2019-

*First Black LGBTQ member of the IL Legislature. Represents the Loop and the South Side.*

Raymond Lopez– Alderman for 15th Ward, 2015-   
*First openly gay Mexican-American elected in Illinois.*

Carlos Ramirez-Rosa – Alderman for 35th Ward, 2015-  
*One of the youngest Chicago Alderman ever and one of two openly gay Latino Alderman. Started career working as organizer for Illinois Coalition for Immigration and Refugee Rights and as a Congressional aide to Congressional Rep. Luis Guiterrez.*

Maria Hadden– Alderman for 49th Ward, 2019-

*First gay black Alderman in the City of Chicago.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the Boystown area.

The Daily Beast observes:

*Chicago’s Boystown was officially recognized as the city’s gay district in 1997, though the neighborhood was rich with LGBT+ history for many years prior. Notably, the modern-day Boystown neighborhood resulted after the LGBT+ community was pushed out of other neighborhoods in Chicago in the 1960s, WBEZ reported.*

<https://www.thedailybeast.com/the-history-of-chicagos-boystown-examining-the-past-present-and-future-of-the-citys-iconic-gay-neighborhood>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Center on Halsted: <https://www.centeronhalsted.org/>

LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois: <http://lgbtcc.com/>

Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus: <http://www.cgmc.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Chicago.

Center on Halsted: <https://www.centeronhalsted.org/board.html>

*Individuals*

Angela Barnes- Chair of the Board of Center on Halsted

Lori Lightfoot – First openly gay Mayor of Chicago

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Jay Young ([jyoung@commoncause.org](mailto:jyoung@commoncause.org)) – Illinois Common Cause Executive Director

Anne Jamieson ([info@lwvil.org](mailto:info@lwvil.org)) – President of Illinois LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Lori Lightfoot targeted in homophobic flyers: 'Hate has no place in Chicago.'*

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/politics/elections/ct-met-chicago-mayors-race-lightfoot-responds-fliers-20190318-story.html>

# Columbus, OH 2/6

Columbus, OH is not a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 2 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Short North |
|  | - **Districted Elections** N/A |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** N/A |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – N/A |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – City Auditor and Member of the City Council are LGBTQ+ |

**Districted Election Systems**

Columbus has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Franklin – 3 at-large commissioners, four-year terms
* City of Columbus – 7 at-large Council Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Neighborhood map: [https://i.pinimg.com/664x/dc/bf/dd/dcbfdd3e900011c0296f086b134e6a89.jpg](https://i.pinimg.com/564x/dc/bf/dd/dcbfdd3e900011c0296f086b134e6a89.jpg)
  + Neighborhood shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Columbus/Columbus%20Neighborhood%20Comiss%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Columbus School District Board – 7 at-large elected members, four-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

Columbus, Ohio does not have any districted offices.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Shannon Hardin – Member of Columbus City Council, 2018-

*First ever openly gay Columbus Council President. Appointed in 2014 and won election in 2015.*

Megan Kilgore – Columbus Auditor, 2018-

*First lesbian elected to an executive position in Columbus.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Columbus’s most LGBTQ-friendly neighborhood is Short North.

Experience Columbus observes:

*For a modern and trendy picture of LGBT life in Columbus, head up to the Short North. As a business district and a collection of residential neighborhoods, the Short North is the city’s most active spot for gay nightlife. Home to Union Cafe, Axis Nightclub, and Level Dining Lounge, this short strip of North High Street is a gay mecca. The neighborhoods on either side of the strip—Victorian Village and Italian Village—sport many pride flags flying from historic porches.* [*experiencecolumbus.com*](https://www.experiencecolumbus.com/blog/post/an-overview-of-columbus-gayborhoods/#:~:text=For%20a%20modern%20and%20trendy,active%20spot%20for%20gay%20nightlife)

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Stonewall Columbus: <https://stonewallcolumbus.org/>

Columbus Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://columbusgaymenschorus.com/>

Diversity Chamber of Columbus (LGBTQ): <https://diversitycolumbus.org/about/>

Equality Ohio: <https://equalityohio.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Columbus.

Stonewall Columbus: <https://stonewallcolumbus.org/about/boardoftrustees/>

*Individuals*

Gerry Rodriguez – Board President of Stonewall Columbus

Allison Harrison – Board President of Columbus Diversity Chamber

Andrew Freeman – Board President of Columbus Gay Men’s Chorus

Joe Matuszewski – Board Chair of Equality Ohio

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Catherine Turcer ([cturcer@commoncause.org](mailto:cturcer@commoncause.org)) – Common Cause Executive Director

Cheryl Roller ([vote@lwvcols.org](mailto:vote@lwvcols.org)) – Columbus LWV President

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder rejects LGBT anti-discrimination protections for staff*

<https://www.cleveland.com/open/2019/10/ohio-house-speaker-larry-householder-rejects-anti-discrimination-protections-for-lgbt-staff.html>

# Dallas, TX 6/6

Dallas, TX is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 6 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Oak Lawn |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Dallas, City of Dallas, and Dallas School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** in the City of Dallas and Dallas School Board |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Strong antigay political culture including a former member of the City Council |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – LGBT groups opposed 2011 Dallas City Council Plan |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Dallas County Sherriff and several members of the Dallas City Council |

**Districted Election Systems**

Dallas has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Dallas Supervisors – 4 Supervisors, at-large Judge, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.dallascounty.org/Assets/uploads/docs/comcrt/countywidedistrictmap.pdf>
  + GIS Shapefile: <https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/pubworks/GIS.php>
* City of Dallas– 14 Council Members, at-large mayor, all four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://gis.dallascityhall.com/cityinfo/>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://gis.dallascityhall.com/>
  + Neighborhoods PDF Map:   
    <https://dallasgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=a84fdb72ed404dd0b4e548364f05245c>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://dallascityhall.com/departments/pnv/Pages/HOANA.aspx>
* Dallas ISD – 9 districted Board Members, four year terms.
  + Current Map: [https://www.dallasisd.org/Page/62198](https://www.dallasisd.org/Page/52198)
  + Shapefile <https://www.dallasisd.org/Page/29132>

**Redistricting Process**

**City of Dallas -**

From 2011 website

*The Redistricting Commission, appointed by the City Council, held public hearings and recommended a districting plan for the City that proposed new boundaries for the City Council districts in accordance with the population changes reflected by the census figures. The Redistricting Commission approved a plan on August 23, 2011 and submitted it to the Mayor on August 31, 2011. The Mayor presented the recommended plan to City Council on September 7, 2011, and City Council adopted a modified districting plan on October 5, 2011. The districting plan will be submitted to the Department of Justice for Preclearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, and if approved by the Department of Justice, will be in place for the 2013 general election for City Council.*

The **County of Dallas**

*Could not find information about redistricting*

**Dallas ISD**

From 2011 website

*As part of the redistricting process at Dallas ISD, the Board of Trustees has directed the redistricting consultants to develop alternative plans that illustrate different approaches to rebalancing the population among the nine single-member trustee districts. The purpose of these plans is to demonstrate to the community alternative means of drawing the districts within the guidelines and criteria adopted by the district for redistricting and to stimulate discussion and suggestions from the community. The trustees welcome your input and are scheduling public hearings around the district to receive comments and suggestions. Hearings will be held Aug. 1, 4, 9, and 16, 2011. Please keep checking this site for the times and locations of the hearings in your neighborhood, which will be posted shortly. After the public hearings, the Board of Trustees will meet to consider the various illustrative plans and the comments and suggestions from the public and will then adopt a redistricting plan for the school district to be utilized in elections starting next year.*

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Lupe Valdez– Dallas County Sheriff, 2005 – 2017

*In 2004, Lupe Valdez shook the political establishment in Dallas County, becoming one of the first Democrats elected countywide in many years. Lupe was ultimately elected to four terms as Sheriff of Dallas County and served from 2005-2017. She was the only Latina Sheriff in the United States and one of very few LGBTQ Americans serving in public office.*

*Prior to becoming Sheriff, Lupe worked to protect the lives and property of American citizens at home and abroad as a captain in the U.S. National Guard and as a federal agent. inclusive Los Angeles.*

*While Sheriff, Valdez worked diligently to address deep structural problems that had developed over the preceding 20 years. The county jail was understaffed, overpopulated, and unsanitary. With her team and the leadership of the County Commissioners, she succeeded in tackling many of the challenges that had plagued the Department such as improving the quality of care for mentally ill inmates, changing culture, and striving to ensure any individual touched by the criminal justice system was treated with respect and dignity.*

<https://www.lupevaldez.com/en/meet-lupe>

Adam Medrano – Dallas City Council, 2013-

*Council Member Medrano currently serves on the Public Safety, Human & Social Needs, and Mobility Solutions, Infrastructure, & Sustainability Committees. Mr. Medrano is also the chair of two Mayor-appointed Task Forces: the Education Task Force and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered (LGBT) Task Force. In addition, Mr. Medrano is a board member of Downtown Dallas, Inc., member of the Dallas County Criminal Justice Advisory Board, member of the Urban Forest Advisory Committee, and member of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO). He is also a member of National League of Cities under which he serves as a board member for HELO (Hispanic Elected Local Officials) and GLBTLO (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Local Officials).*

*A lifelong resident of District 2, Council Member Medrano attended Dallas Independent School District schools. He attended Sam Houston Elementary School and the former L.L. Hotchkiss Montessori Academy and graduated from Hillcrest High School. He graduated from the University of North Texas with a major in biology and a minor in chemistry.*

<http://adammedrano.com/about/>

Chad West - Dallas City Council, 2019-present

*Chad is originally from Southern Illinois – his father is a retired farmer, and his mother is a retired teacher/principal.*

*The U.S. Army paid for Chad to go to college and eventually brought him to Texas in 1999, where Chad first served at Fort Sam Houston and, later, traveled overseas to Hungary and Bosnia. After completing his tour, Chad was honorably discharged as a combat veteran, and he attended law school at Texas Tech School of Law, where he graduated with honors.*

*Chad opened his law firm in Oak Cliff in 2010 and has won numerous awards for his legal advocacy. He is a four-time D Magazine “Best Lawyer,” a nine-year “Readers’ Choice Awardee” for the Dallas Voice, a five-year selectee as “Rising Star” for Texas Super Lawyers, and he was selected as the 2012 Dallas Association of Young Lawyers – Outstanding Lawyer of the Year.*

* One of three council members who initiated flying the City’s newly unveiled PRIDE flag during June celebrating equality for LGBTQ individuals.
* Working with Collective Hope Coalition advocating for LGBTQ suicide prevention.

*Chad and family live in North Oak Cliff. Chad is an avid runner, fantasy and science fiction reader, and Texas Tech football fan.*

[*https://chadwestdallas.com/about-chad/*](https://chadwestdallas.com/about-chad/)

Omar Narvaez – Dallas City Council, 2019-

*Omar was elected as a new voice to the Dallas City Council in 2017 representing the diverse and culturally-rich neighborhoods of District 6. For over 80 years, Council Member Narvaez’ family has lived in District 6, including the Ledbetter, La Loma and Bachman Lake neighborhoods.*

*Omar’s years of public service as a community leader have earned him a reputation as a great listener and hard worker who gets things done. In his elected position as Trustee for Dallas County Schools, Omar championed living wages for working families and fought to ensure our children’s safety every single day.*

*He has a passion for community involvement and has served as president of the Stonewall Democrats of Dallas & vice-president of League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) 4871. In 2013 he was awarded the first-ever LULAC 4871 “Nuestro Orgullo Award”. Omar Narvaez has served our city in elected, appointed and volunteer positions* [*http://www.omarfordallas.com/meet-omar/*](http://www.omarfordallas.com/meet-omar/)

John McCall Jr - Justice of the Peace, 2016 –

*As the son of a County Judge I have been groomed to follow in his footsteps. I have always anticipated sitting on a bench and now my time has come. An open seat has given me the opportunity to run for an elected Judicial Position for the Justice of the Peace, Precinct 5, Place 1. While I would not be the first openly gay elected Judge, I would be the first openly gay Justice of the Peace which is another accolade our genre should have bragging rights for as well. While my sexuality has no bearing on the position itself, it does have tremendous impact on future positions for openly gay candidates. Every time a gay official is elected, it greases the skids for future elections to ultimately have a gay state and eventually federal representatives in the House and Senate.*

[www.mccalljr4jp.com](http://www.mccalljr4jp.com)

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The city of Dallas has a number of different communities and neighborhoods.  A map of the neighborhoods can be found here:

* <https://dallasgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=a84fdb72ed404dd0b4e548364f05245c>

The community most defined as LGBTQ in the Dallas area are such:

* Oak Lawn
* Bishop Arts District

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the Dallas area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

* North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce – Based in Oak Lawn, the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce supports the economic and cultural development of its GLBT community.
* Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance (Oak Lawn) – non profit org that advocates for full civil rights dignity and self respect for the LGBT community
* Resource Center - trusted leader that empowers the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) communities and all people affected by HIV through improving health and wellness, strengthening families and communities and providing transformative education and advocacy.

**LGBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Dallas.

North Texas Gay and Lesbian Alliance: <https://www.galanorthtexas.org/board>

North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce: <https://lgbtchamber.com/chamber-leadership/>

Stonewall Democrats Boards: <http://www.stonewalldemocratsofdallas.org/structure>

Resource Center Board: <https://www.myresourcecenter.org/people/>

*Other Individuals*

* Dawna Hubert (GALA President)
* Clinton Thomson (North Texas GLBT Chamber Chair)
* Brandon Vance (Dallas Stonewall Democrats President)
* Cece Cox (CEO, Resource Center)
* Paul Von Wupperfield (Board President, Resource Center)
* Angela Hale (Equality Texas CEO Emeritus)
* Steve Atkinson (EQTX Foundation Board Chair)
* Mark Phariss (EQTX Boarmember)
* Jonathan Nelson (EQTX Boarmember)
* Jennifer Guyot-Wallace (EQTX Boarmember)

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Diane Tasian ([president@lwvdallas.org](mailto:president@lwvdallas.org)) – President of Dallas LWV

Anthony Gutierrez ([agutierrez@commoncause.org](mailto:agutierrez@commoncause.org)) – Common Cause Texas Executive Director

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Dallas Moves To Counter Far-Right Anti-LGBT Hate Rally On November 16th*

<https://itsgoingdown.org/dallas-moves-to-counter-lgbt-hate-rally/>

*Dallas Councilwoman Objects to "Homosexual Conduct" in HIV Testing Billboard*

https://www.advocate.com/politics/2013/06/18/dallas-councilwoman-objects-homosexual-conduct-hiv-testing-billboard

# Washington, D.C. 3/6

This document outlines findings for Washington, D.C.

Washington, D.C. is not a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 3 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhoods of Dupont Circle, U Street, and Adams Morgan |
|  | - **Districted Elections** in Washington, D.C. |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** in Washington D.C. Public hearings and comment required. |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Not currently, but historically it has. |

**Districted Election Systems**

* District of Columbia – 8 Districted Seats and 5 At-Large
  + Current map: <https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/WebsitePDF_New_24x36_CityWide_WardMap_100.pdf>
  + Ward shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Washington%2C%20D.C./DC%20Wards.zip?role=personal>
* DC School District – 8 Districted Seats and 1 At-Large
  + Current map: <https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/WebsitePDF_New_24x36_CityWide_WardMap_100.pdf>
  + Ward shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Washington%2C%20D.C./DC%20Wards.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

A ward task force is created, with one person from each ward representing said ward. Each ward must submit alternative boundaries to the Council. The population deviation cannot exceed 10% and no plan may have the purpose and effect of diluting the voting strength of minority residents.

DC Redistricting Code: <https://code.dccouncil.us/dc/council/code/sections/1-1041.02.html>

From 2011, the city council runs and votes on the process. Then the US congress must vote to approve the new maps. This process happened in June 2011 last time and was trying to be completed by the November deadline to being gathering signatures - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/mike-debonis/post/dc-council-has-to-fix-redistricting-legislation/2011/10/18/gIQA3wozuL_blog.html>

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Jack Jacobson – State Board of Education, 2013-2021

*Elected to BOE to represent Ward 2 in 2012. Started career serving on the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Committee.*

Jim Graham – DC City Council, 1999-2015

*Second ever openly gay member of the DC Council, representing Ward 1. Started career as executive director Walker-Whitman HIV clinic.*

David Catania – DC City Council, 1997-2015

*First ever openly gay member of the DC Council, elected at-large. Co-authored council legislation that recognized same-sex civil unions and legalized same-sex marriage.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Dupont Circle, Adams Morgan, U Street

From 2015 to 2016, [Gallup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gallup_(company)) polling reported that 8.6% of District of Columbia residents identified as LGBT, a higher percentage than any U.S. state.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT_culture_in_Washington,_D.C.#cite_note-1) The [U.S. Census Bureau](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Census_Bureau) reported that there were 6,935 same-sex households in Washington, D.C. in 2018, of which 61% were same-sex spouses.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT_culture_in_Washington,_D.C.#cite_note-2) In 2017, 2.9% of all households were same-sex couple households. 77.4% of these households were male couples.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT_culture_in_Washington,_D.C.#cite_note-3)

The Dupont Circle neighborhood is a historical hub of LGBT life in Washington D.C. The area hosts several LGBT events, including the [17th Street High Heel Race](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High_Heel_Drag_Queen_Race) and the Capital Pride Parade. The neighborhood also has several gay bars, including JR's. A stretch of 17th Street NW is named in honor of Frank Kameny.[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT_culture_in_Washington,_D.C.#cite_note-:2-10) Before closing in 2010, the Lambda Rising bookstore was located on Connecticut Avenue NW.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT_culture_in_Washington,_D.C.#cite_note-:3-6)

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

Mayor’s Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Affairs - <https://communityaffairs.dc.gov/molgbtqa>

Washington Blade – LGBT Newspaper/Blog <https://www.washingtonblade.com/>

The DC Center for the LGBT Community – <https://thedccenter.org/>

The Equality Chamber of Commerce - <https://www.eccdc.biz/>

Other Orgs - <https://thedccenter.org/organizations>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

Sheila Alexander-Reid – Director of Mayor’s Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Affairs

Morgen Hunt – President of Equality Chamber of Commerce

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Kevin Donahue, Interim City Administrator **-** [oca.eom@dc.gov](mailto:oca.eom@dc.gov)

Kathy Chiron ([lwvdc1920@gmail.com](mailto:lwvdc1920@gmail.com)) – DC LWV President

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Denver, CO 5/6

Denver, CO is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Capitol Hill. |
|  | - **Districted Elections** in the City of Denver and the Denver School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** in the City of Denver. |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – LGBTQ candidates have been attacked for their identity and members of legislature are pushing LGBTQ+ discrimination legislation |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Member of the Denver City Council and several members of the Colorado Legislature |

**Districted Election Systems**

Denver has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* City of Denver – 11 districted Council Members, 2 at-large Council Members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.denvergov.org/media/gis/WebDocs/CityCouncil/LgMap_City_Council_Dist_Precincts_Streets_2015.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Denver/Denver%20Council%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood PDF: <https://www.denvergov.org/media/gis/WebDocs/Citywide/Neighborhoods.pdf>
  + Neighborhood shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Denver/Denver%20Neighborhoods.zip?role=personal>
* Denver School District Board – 5 districted elected members, 2 at-large elected members, four-year terms
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Denver/Denver%20School%20Board%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Colorado**

**City of Denver**

* *The City and County of Denver shall be divided by ordinance into eleven Council Districts. The boundaries of these districts may be changed by ordinances, but they shall be as compact as can be, shall contain contiguous territory, and shall be divided as equally as practical so that they contain equal population, based on the most recent United States decennial census, or other official population studies or reports. Said boundaries shall be changed, by ordinance, at least once every ten years, in accordance with the requirements hereof. Council Districts shall be comprised of whole election precincts.*

Citation: <https://library.municode.com/co/denver/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TITIHORU_SUBTITLE_BCH_ARTIIICICO_PT1ELQUDISU_S3.1.2CODICHBO>

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Robin Kniech – Member of the Denver City Council, 2011-

*First openly gay member of the Denver City Council, elected at-large in 2011.*

Leslie Herod – Member of the Colorado House, 2017-

*Colorado’s first openly gay, black legislator. Elected to represent Denver’s 8th House District in 2016.*

Alex Valdez – Member of the Colorado House, 2019-

*Elected to Represent Downtown Denver’s 5th House District in 2018.*

Mark Ferrandino – Speaker of the Colorado House, 2013-2015

*Colorado’s first openly gay legislator and Speaker. Appointed in 2007 to fill vacancy in House District 2, representing Denver. Co-authored legislation to allow same-sex civil unions in Colorado as well as allow same-sex benefits.*

Jennifer Veiga – Member of the Colorado Senate, 2003-2009

*Colorado’s first openly gay member of the Legislature. Elected to represent Downtown Denver’s 3rd House District in 1997 and the 31st Senate District in 2003. Co-authored Colorado’s non-discrimination statute on the basis of sexual orientation.*

Paul Rosenthal – Member of the Colorado House, 2013-2019

*Elected to represent Denver’s 9th House District in 2012.*

Lucia Guzman – Member of the Colorado Senate, 2010-2019

*Appointed to represent Denver’s 34th Senate District in 2010. Served on the Denver School Board from 1999 to 2007.*

Pat Steadman – Member of the Colorado Senate, 2009-2017

*Elected to represent Downtown Denver in 31st Senate District. Co-authored Colorado’s same-sex civil union legislation in 2011 which was unsuccessful.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Denver’s most LGBTQ inclusive neighborhood is Cheesman Park/Capitol Hill.

Out Front Magazine observes:

*U.S. Census data shows that from 2000-2010, the number of same-sex couples living in the Cheesman Park area, (zip code 80218), grew three percent to 292 couples. The Cheesman Park area still ranks in the top 3 most popular neighborhoods, with one in every 40 households led by a gay or lesbian couple. In Capitol Hill and Uptown, (zip code 80203), one in 56 households are occupied by same-sex couples.* <https://www.outfrontmagazine.com/trending/changing-times-denvers-lgbt-families-moving-beyond-gayborhood/>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Center on Colfax: <https://lgbtqcolorado.org/>

Colorado LGBT Chamber of Commerce: <https://colgbtqcc.org/>

Denver Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://denverchoruses.org/dgmc/>

Matthew Shepard Foundation: <https://www.matthewshepard.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Denver.

Center on Colfax: <https://lgbtqcolorado.org/about/board-of-directors/>

*Individuals*

Michael Song – Co-Chair of Center on Colfax Board

Jim Smith – Chairperson of the Colorado LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Michael Backman – President of Denver’s Gay Men’s Chorus

Judy Shepard – President of Matthew Shepard Foundation

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Amanda Gonzalez ([lwvdc1920@gmail.com](mailto:lwvdc1920@gmail.com)) – Colorado Common Cause Executive Director

Marjorie Fisch ([info@LWVDenver.org](mailto:info@LWVDenver.org)) – Denver LWV Director

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*GOP minority doubling down on anti-LGBTQ efforts in Colorado legislature*

[*https://www.denverpost.com/2020/02/11/lgbtq-bills-colorado-legislature/*](https://www.denverpost.com/2020/02/11/lgbtq-bills-colorado-legislature/)

*Colorado’s First Trans Lawmaker Targeted With Anti-LGBTQ Campaign Ads*

[*https://www.cpr.org/2020/10/30/colorados-first-trans-lawmaker-targeted-with-anti-lgbtq-campaign-ads/*](https://www.cpr.org/2020/10/30/colorados-first-trans-lawmaker-targeted-with-anti-lgbtq-campaign-ads/)

# Hartford, CT 3/6

Hartford, CT is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 3 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of South End |
|  | - **Districted Elections** – N/A |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** – N/A |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – LGBTQ+ politicians have been attacked for their identity |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – N/A |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – member of the CT House representing Hartford is openly LGBTQ+ |

**Districted Election Systems**

Hartford has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* City of Hartford – 9 at-large Council Members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
* Hartford School District Board – 5 appointed at-large members, four elected at-large, four-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Connecticut**

**City of Hartford**

* Hartford, CT Council is not districted.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Kevin Lembo- Comptroller of Connecticut, 2011-

*Connecticut Comptroller Kevin Lembo, who is openly gay, is the recent target of an aggressively anti-LGBTQ group.*

*Lembo has been inundated with thousands of calls and emails from people from out-of-state locations after the state comptroller challenged the American Family Association's "charitable" status.*

*"The state of Connecticut, once a bastion of religious liberty, has now become the epicenter of blatant anti-Christian discrimination," Bryan Fischer, former American Family Association director and current radio host, said on the group's website.*

<https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/openly-gay-connecticut-politician-targeted-anti-lgbtq-group-n693021>

Jeffrey Currey – Connecticut House of Representatives, 2015-

*Jeff Currey, a lifelong resident of East Hartford and proud son, brother, and uncle, was re-elected to a fourth term in 2020 to serve the 11th Assembly District, which is made up of parts of East Hartford, Manchester and South Windsor. Jeff has been named a Deputy Majority Leader for a second term and reappointed to the Appropriations, Education, and Judiciary Committees.*

*Jeff graduated from the East Hartford Public School System and received his B.A. in Theater from Wagner College in New York City. After graduating from college, he found his way back to a life of public service, something embedded in him from the time he was very young. Giving back to the community is a family tradition he enjoys continuing.*

*Jeff is the Manager of Special Projects for the Admissions Department at Goodwin University in East Hartford. He is currently working with the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Employment & Training division providing free certification and associate degree programs to residents receiving SNAP benefits. Prior to joining the team at Goodwin, Jeff worked for the CT Department of Labor assisting in overseeing the Jobs First Employment Services Program for those on cash assistance throughout the state.*

*Prior to serving as a state representative, Jeff served as the Chairman of the East Hartford Board of Education, where he was first elected in 2009. Additionally, he served on the board of the East Hartford Community Resource Center as well as CABE (Connecticut Association of Boards of Education), where he held the position of Area Director.*

*In his free time, besides long walks on the beach, he enjoys singing with the Hartford Gay Men’s Chorus, trying to keep up with his six nieces and nephews, as well as taking in the many sights and trails that our beautiful state has to offer.*

<https://www.housedems.ct.gov/Currey/Biography>

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ in the Hartford area is the neighborhood of South End.

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

The Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective- empowers individuals of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions to lead healthy lives through the provision of health and support services, education and advocacy. <http://www.hglhc.org/>

Hartford Pride- brings events and news to New England's GLBTQ+ community and celebrates achievements, fosters inclusion, educates, and creates awareness on issues impacting the LGBTQ+ community. <https://www.hartfordpride.org/>

PFLAG Hartford -foundation of loving families united with LGBTQ people and allies who support one another, and to educate ourselves and our communities to speak up as advocates until all hearts and minds respect, value and affirm LGBTQ people. <https://pflaghartford.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Hartford.

The Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective <https://www.hglhc.org/volunteers-we-need-you/board-members>

PFLAG Hartford: <https://pflaghartford.org/our-board/>

*Other Individuals*

* Mark Pixley (PFLAG Hartford, President)
* Curtis Rodriguez Porter III (HGLHC, President)
* Ronald Funaro (Vice President, HGLHC, President)

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Carole Mulready ([info@lwvgh.org](mailto:info@lwvgh.org)) – Hartford LWV President

Cheri Quickmire ([cquickmire@commoncause.org](mailto:cquickmire@commoncause.org)) – CT Common Cause Executive Director

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Openly gay Connecticut politician target by anti-LGBTQ group*

<https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/openly-gay-connecticut-politician-targeted-anti-lgbtq-group-n693021>

# Houston, TX 6/6

Hartford, CT is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 6 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Montrose |
|  | - **Districted Elections** in the County of Harris, City of Houston, and the Houston School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** in the City of Houston |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – strong political culture of opposing LGTBQ+ protections |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – LGBTQ+ groups opposed TX House maps that split Montrose neighborhood |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Harris County DA and a member of the City Council are openly LGBTQ+ |

**Districted Election Systems**

Houston has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Harris – 4 commissioners, at-large judge, four-year terms
  + Current map: <https://www.harriscountytx.gov/Portals/49/Documents/Proposed-Redistricting-HC/2013_Commissioner_Precincts_Revised_A1_Final_Redistricting_Map.pdf>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Houston/Harris%20County%20Commiss%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Houston – 11 districted council members, 4 at-large Council Members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current map: <https://www.houstontx.gov/council/maps2020/alldistricts.pdf>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Houston/Houston%20City%20Council%20Districts%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Houston School District Board – 9 elected districted members, four-year terms
  + Current map: <https://www.houstonisd.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=157229&dataid=117786&FileName=Board%20Map%202020-2021.pdf>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Houston/Houston%20School%20Board%20Map.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Texas**

**County of Harris**

*Could not find information about redistricting – seems to be the commissioners draw them…*

[*https://www.harriscountytx.gov/redistrict*](https://www.harriscountytx.gov/redistrict)

**City of Houston**

Could not find 2020 process – but from 2011 process:

*(a) The Planning Department shall compile, at the earliest possible date,*

*information about current county voting precincts located in the City.*

*(b) During the month of March 2011, the Planning Department will coordinate*

*community/town hall meetings in various locations across the City to explain the City's*

*redistricting criteria, procedures and rules, and to receive input from the public.*

*(c) On or before April 6, 2011, the Planning Department shall prepare maps and*

*a report on proposed Council District boundaries ("redistricting plan"), reflecting the results of the year 2010 decennial census count and including those territories added to the City by annexation since boundaries were last established by the Ordinance.*

*(d) On April 6, 2011, the Planning Department shall present to City Council a*

*proposed redistricting plan, including a report on the population for each proposed Council*

*District for the general election to be held on November 8, 2011.*

*(e) A public hearing on the redistricting plan will be held in three (3) separate sessions.*

*WHEREAS****,*** *Article V, sections 2 and 3, of the City Charter provide that, upon a*

*determination by the City Council that the population of the City is 2.1 million or more, the*

*number of Council Members shall increase from 14 to 16, and that the two additional*

*members shall be designated as Council Member, District J, and Council Member, District K*

<http://www.houstontx.gov/planning/2011/docs_pdfs/FullResolution_2011-1_en.pdf>

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Annise Parker– Mayor of Houston, 2010-2016

*Victory Fund and Victory Institute President & CEO Annise Parker is the first former elected official to lead the organizations, having served six years as a Houston City Council member, six years as City Controller, and six years as Mayor of the city. She is one of only two women to have been elected mayor, and is the only person in Houston history to have held the offices of council member, controller and mayor. She was the first openly LGBTQ mayor of a major American city.*

*She currently serves on the Policy and Global Affairs Committee of the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine and the boards of Houston Botanic Garden, Houston BARC Foundation, Patient Care Intervention Council, and the Climate Disclosure Project (CDP).*

*Prior to joining Victory Fund and Victory Institute, she was Senior Vice-President and Chief Strategy Officer of BakerRipley, a community development non-profit. She was also a Fellow at the Doerr Institute for New Leaders and Professor in the Practice at Rice University. She served on the boards of FirstNet – created by Congress to implement a nationwide broadband network for first –responders and the Airbnb Mayor’s Advisory Board.*

<https://victoryinstitute.org/team/annise-parker-2/>

Kim Ogg – Harris County DA 2016-

*As the elected district attorney in the nation’s third-largest county, Kim Ogg represents more constituents than any other openly LGBTQ law-enforcement official in the U.S. More importantly, as Harris County’s first Democratic DA in nearly four decades, Ogg has ushered in a wave of progressive reforms—from marijuana enforcement to victims’ rights, and from the bail system to increasing the transparency and diversity of her office.*

*In doing so, Ogg has emerged as a leading figure in the national debate over criminal-justice policy, and as a rising star in “the Resistance” to the right-wing agendas of Republican state leaders and president Donald Trump.*

*Ogg, a 57-year-old Houston native, lives in the Heights with her partner of 32 years, Olivia Jordan, and their teenage son, Jack Jordan. With her tenure as DA approaching its six-month mark, Ogg sat down with OutSmart for an exclusive interview..*

<http://www.outsmartmagazine.com/2017/06/cover-story-harris-county-da-kim-ogg-is-americas-top-gay-cop/>

Robert Gallegos - Houston City Council, 2019-

*As a young boy, Robert Gallegos sat at his kitchen table and told two of his older brothers that when he grewup , he wanted to be involved*

*Community-minded: Houston city council member Robert Gallegos brings his long history of activism and passion for the people of his district to City Hall—all while breaking barriers for the gay Latino community. In the community. Several decades later, a now-grown Gallegos leans back and, with a warm smile, recalls this story—this time as the newly sworn-in Houston city council member for District I, and the first openly gay Latino council member in the state.*

*“I got that fever back then,” he says. “I remember telling my brothers that I wanted to see what I could do to help the community . . . and I’ve kept that promise to myself, because for thirty-some years I was involved in the community, and now I’m here representing the district.”*

[*http://www.outsmartmagazine.com/2014/02/meet-robert-gallegos/*](http://www.outsmartmagazine.com/2014/02/meet-robert-gallegos/)

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ in the Houston area are such:

* Montrose
* Westbury
* Houston Heights

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the Houston area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

* The Montrose Center is a LGBT community center located in the Montrose district of Houston
  + The center in 2019 began the establishment of a senior center in the Third Ward
  + <http://www.montrosecenter.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Houston.

Houston GLBT Caucus: <https://www.thecaucus.org/about/caucus-leadership/>

Montrose Center: <http://www.montrosecenter.org/about/board-directors/>

Greater Houston LGBT Chamber of Commerce: <https://www.houstonlgbtchamber.com/board-of-directors/>

*Other Individuals*

* Tammi Wallace (Houston LGBT CoC President and CEO)
* Johnathan Mars (Houston LGBT CoC Board Chair)
* Jovon Tyler (President Houston GLBT Caucus)
* Tara Kelly (President, Montrose Center)
* Jack McBride (EQTX Boardmember)
* Mitra Woody (EQTX Boardmember)
* Lou Weaver (EQTX/City of Houston LGBT Advisory Board Chair)
* Melaine Pang (Vice Chair, Houston LGBT Advisory Board Chair)

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Anthony Gutierrez ([agutierrez@commoncause.org](mailto:agutierrez@commoncause.org)) – TX Common Cause Executive Director

MaryJane Mudd – Houston LWV President

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Texas archdiocese challenges LGBT anti-discrimination rights* <https://www.ncronline.org/news/quick-reads/texas-archdiocese-challenges-lgbt-anti-discrimination-rights>

*Houston Pastor Group Sues To Block Austin's Anti-Discrimination Ordinance* <https://www.kut.org/austin/2018-10-09/houston-pastor-group-sues-to-block-austins-anti-discrimination-ordinance>

*Houston Voters Reject Broad Anti-Discrimination Ordinance*

https://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/04/us/houston-voters-repeal-anti-bias-measure.html

# Indianapolis, IN 5/6

Indianapolis, IN is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the Mass Avenue Arts District |
|  | - **Districted Elections** City of Indianapolis and Indianapolis Public Schools |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** City of Indianapolis |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Strong political culture that opposed LGBTQ+ protections |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – several members of the Indianapolis Council are openly LGBTQ+ |

**Districted Election Systems**

Indianapolis has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

Indianapolis is a consolidated county city with Marion County.

* City of Indianapolis/County of Marion– 25 districted Council Members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://citybase-cms-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/a609622a5f4c4644b3431d3a7d4988d9.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Indianapolis/Marion%20County%20Council%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood map: <http://maps.indy.gov/myneighborhood/>
  + Neighborhood shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Indianapolis/Indianapolis%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Indianapolis School Board – 5 districted elected members, 2 at-large elected members, four-year terms
  + Current map: <https://citybase-cms-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/80fcb75d1fae4565a16ef4bf1751f6c8.pdf>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Indianapolis/Marion%20County%20School%20Board%20Map.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Indiana**

**City of Indianapolis**

* Indianapolis Council has total control over redistricting
  + Districts must have population as equal as possible and be compact
  + No split precincts

More: <https://codes.findlaw.com/in/title-36-local-government/in-code-sect-36-3-4-3.html>

**Indianapolis PSD**

*No prior information*

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Ethan Evans - Indianapolis City-County Council, 2020-

*Ethan Evans (Democrat) became District 4’s representative in 2020. Councillor Ethan Evans was born and raised in Indianapolis in a union household*

*Evans is an active volunteer with local community organizations that support neighborhoods, including Lawrence Community Garden and the Kheprw Institute. He has also taken part in community food, clothing, and school supply drives, as well as voter registration activities. Evans earned a Bachelor of Arts in Cinematography and a Master of Science in Secondary Education. He’s worked at Indianapolis Public Schools and at the Marion County Surveyor’s Office, and is a member of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union (AFSCME) Local 827.*

<https://www.indy.gov/activity/councillor-ethan-evans>

Alison Brown – Indianapolis City-County Council, 2020-

*Alison Brown is a small business owner and former nonprofit executive. After a lifetime of standing tall for others, Ali is running for Indianapolis City-County Council to make real change in her community. From her activist work with organizations like Freedom Indiana to her efforts connecting people with new careers as a workforce development nonprofit executive, Ali has dedicated her life to empowering people and lifting up her community.*

*In her professional life, Ali has first-hand workforce development experience as the Executive Director of a large construction workforce development nonprofit, helping to connect people to apprenticeship programs in the building trades. Ali has helped hundreds of Indianapolis residents find jobs by leading the planning and execution of career fairs in the Circle City. As the previous Executive Director of the Indiana Transportation Association, the leading nonprofit representing mass transit in our state, Ali believes that an interconnected community benefits everyone and leads to a better Indianapolis.*

*Ali has been married to her husband, Zach, for more than three years and in January their son, Dylan, celebrated his second birthday. Time and time again, she has proven her ability to lead our community to a better future. Now, Ali is ready to stand tall for Indy. Ali is LGBT and is a bisexual woman.*

<http://aliforindy.com/about-ali/>

Keith Potts – Indianapolis City-County Council, 2020-

*Marion County voters in District 2 (view district map) elected Keith Potts (Democrat) as their Councillor in 2019.*

*Councillor Keith Potts (he/him/his) is an arts advocate, having graduated in 2012 from the Boston Conservatory of Music with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. He works with local not-for-profit arts organizations, teaching after-school music classes, directing, and performing with organizations like the Phoenix Theatre, Indy Shakes, Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, Actors Theatre of Indiana, and Civic Theatre.*

*Potts’ political work has been centered on issue-based campaigns and progressive candidates, with a particular focus on protecting women’s rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and the environment. Potts lives in Nora with his husband, Dr. Bryan Dodd, and their rescue dog, Mak.*

Zach Adamson – Indianapolis City-County Council, 2012-

*Zach Adamson (Democrat) has been District 17’s (view district map) Councillor since 2011. He is currently Council Vice President.*

*Adamson has worked in both the business and community development sectors. In addition to running a small business, he sat on the board of directors for his neighborhood association, founded and led the Willard Park of Holy Cross-Westminster Civic Alliance, and served as NESCO Vice President. This experience gives Adamson a unique perspective into many issues that face his district.*

*Adamson lives in the historic Willard Park neighborhood on the near eastside of Indianapolis. He is an active member of Life Journey Church. In his spare time, he volunteers for several civic associations and enjoys playing with the family dogs.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Indianapolis’s most LGBTQ inclusive neighborhood is the Mass Ave Arts District neighborhood.

Gay Real Estate observes:

*Located on the northeastern edge of the downtown area, the Mass Ave Arts District is very popular with the LGBTQ community. It is known for being a trendy, walkable neighborhood characterized by historic homes and plenty to see and do, including many boutiques, LGBTQ nightspots and restaurants, theaters, and other historic buildings.* <https://www.gayrealestate.com/news/usa/indiana/indianapolis/indianapolis-gay-city-guide--finding-your-home-in-the-heartland.html>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the Indianapolis area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

The LGBTQ Center of Indianapolis: <https://www.thelgbtqcenter.org/>

Indy Rainbow Chamber: <https://www.indyrainbowchamber.org/>

Indy Pride: <https://indypride.org/>

Indianapolis Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://www.indianapolismenschorus.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Indianapolis.

LGBTQ Center of Indianapolis: <https://www.thelgbtqcenter.org/about-us>

*Individuals*

Andy Ward – President of Indy Rainbow Chamber

Chris Handberg – Executive Director of Indy Pride

Colton Withers – Board President of Indianapolis Gay Men’s Chorus

* Chris Handberg (Indy Pride, Executive Director)

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Julia Vaughn ([cquickmire@commoncause.org](mailto:cquickmire@commoncause.org)) – Indiana Common Cause Executive Director

Debbie Asberry ([redistricting@lwvindy.org](mailto:redistricting@lwvindy.org)) – Indianapolis LWV Director of Redistricting

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

Indiana & Anti-LGBT Discrimination: What Does it Mean for Foundations?

<https://lgbtfunders.org/newsposts/indiana-anti-lgbt-discrimination-what-does-it-mean-for-foundations/>

# Kansas City, MO 5/6

Kansas City, MO is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the Midtown/Westport area |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Jackson, City of Kansas City, and Kansas City School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** City of Kansas City |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Strong political culture of opposing LGBTQ+ protections |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – openly gay member of the City Council and several members of the legislature that represent Kansas City |

**Districted Election Systems**

Kansas City has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Jackson– 6 districted legislators, 3 at-large legislators, at-large county executive, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.kceb.org/useruploads/Maps19_/2019_County_Legislative_Districts2.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Long%20Beach/LA%20Supervisorial%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
* City of Kansas City– 6 districted Council Members, 6 at-large council members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.kceb.org/useruploads/Maps19_/2019_City_Council_Districts2.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Kansas%20City/KC%20Council%20Districts%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood map: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?gl=us&ptab=2&ie=UTF8&oe=UTF8&msa=0&mid=1ukrq23p5kOnlpHU3iIcmaNf3TSk&ll=39.07552565358651%2C-94.50499554443358&z=12>
  + Neighborhood shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Kansas%20City/Kansas%20City%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Kansas City School District Board – 5 districted elected members, 2 at-large elected members, five-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.kceb.org/useruploads/Maps19_/2019_School_District_Map.pdf>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Missouri**

**City of Kansas City**

* The Council shall draw new districts, based upon the last official federal census, not later than the last day of December of the year of the publication of the official federal census.

Code: <https://library.municode.com/mo/kansas_city/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTICHKAMI_ARTIIMAMECO_DIV1MACO_S203CODI>

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Jolie Justus – Member of the Kansas City Council, 2015-2019

*Unsuccessfully ran for Mayor in 2019. First openly gay member of the Kansas City Council in 2015. Elected as first openly gay member of the Missouri Senate in 2007, representing Kansas City. Co-authored sexual orientation non-discrimination statute in Missouri.*

Brandon Woodward – Member of the Kansas House, 2019-

*Elected first openly gay member of the Kansas House in 2018, representing Kansas City Suburbs in 30th District.*

Susan Ruiz – Member of the KS House, 2019-

*Elected first openly gay member of the Kansas House in 2018, representing Kansas City suburbs in 23rd district.*

Sharice Davids – Member of US House, 2018-

*Elected first openly LGBT Native American and Kansan member of the US House in 2018, representing Kansas City, KS.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Kansas City’s most LGBTQ inclusive neighborhood is the Midtown/Westport neighborhoods.

Visit KC observes:

*One of the great charms of Kansas City for LGBT visitors is that this friendly, welcoming metropolis has a wealth of neighborhoods of strong interest to the gay community. From downtown and the bustling Power & Light entertainment district, south through the hip Crossroads Arts District and on down through Midtown, Westport and the iconic Country Club Plaza neighborhood, you'll find shops, bars, restaurants, coffeehouses, and museums popular with the LGBT community.* <https://www.visitkc.com/visitors/things-do/trip-ideas/gay-friendly-kc-weekend-city-fountains>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the Kansas City area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

The Kansas City Inclusion Center: <https://www.inclusivekc.org/>

Mid-American LGBT Chamber of Commerce: <https://www.midamericalgbt.org/>

Kansas City Pride: <https://www.kcpridefest.org/>

Heartland Men’s Chorus: <http://hmckc.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Kansas City.

Kansas City Inclusion Center: <https://www.inclusivekc.org/about/board-of-directors/>

*Individuals*

Stedmond Ware – Board Chair of Kansas City Inclusion Center

Jeff Haris – Board President of Mid-America LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Rick Fisher – Executive Director of Heartland Men’s Chorus

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Sandy Eeds ([lwvkcpresident@gmail.com](mailto:lwvkcpresident@gmail.com)) – President of Kansas City LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Pro-Trump Pastor Mocks Biden Message of 'Unity,' Blasts LGBTQ Protections*

<https://www.newsweek.com/pro-trump-pastor-mocks-biden-message-unity-blasts-lgbtq-protections-1563938>

# Las Vegas, NV 4/6

Las Vegas, NV is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the Paradise area |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Clark and City of Las Vegas |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Clark and City of Las Vegas |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – two openly gay men on the City Council and a Member of the Legislature representing Las Vegas |

**Districted Election Systems**

Las Vegas has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Clark Commissioners – 7 districted Council Members, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://files.clarkcountynv.gov/clarknv/Election%20Department/Report%20Data%20Maps/Political%20District%20Maps/County%20Commission/COMMISSION3X4.pdf?t=1612315261456&t=1612315261456>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Las%20Vegas/Clark%20County%20Comission%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Las Vegas – 6 districted members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current map: <https://files.lasvegasnevada.gov/map/Council-Ward-Pictures-Map-8.5x11.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Las%20Vegas/Las%20Vegas%20Wards.zip?role=personal>
* Las Vegas School District Board – 7 districted appointed members, four-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

**Clark County**

**Language from Clark County Charter -**

*3.36.010 - Created—Purpose.*

*(a) Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes 244.016 and 244.018, the board of county commissioners redistricts the seven county commission election districts.*

*(b)The policy for redistricting the county is declared to be:(1)To provide that the several commission districts shall represent substantially equal numbers of people as practicable, in compliance with the Constitutions of the U.S. and the state of Nevada;(2)To preserve the unity of each district where practicable so that each is composed entirely of contiguous territory and is as compact as possible;(3)To avoid, where practicable, any division which would tend to submerge an area in a larger district wherein substantially different socioeconomic interests predominate.(c)The board of county commissioners finds that:(1)The redistricting shall be based upon the population count established by the last national census of the Bureau of Census of the United States Department of Commerce.(2)Each county commissioner shall be a resident of and be elected by the registered voters of the county commissioner election district as provided in this chapter.(3)The number of county commissioners elected at each general election pursuant to this chapter shall be as nearly equal as possible.(d)Clark County is divided into the following county commission election districts designated as Districts A through G. Districts A, B, C and D shall consist of commission seats with terms expiring on the day before the first Monday of January, 1993, and thereafter consisting of four-year terms. Districts E, F and G consist of commission seats with terms expiring on the day before the first Monday in January, 1995 and thereafter consisting of four-year terms.(e)Maps identifying the boundaries of the various districts are attached to the ordinance codified in this chapter as Exhibits "1" and "2" which by this reference are made a part of this chapter. District A is all of the territory of Clark County lying within the beige area; District B is all that area in blue; District C is all that area in green; District D is all that area in yellow; District E is all that area in salmon; District F is all that area in pink; and District G is all that area in lavender.*

**City of Las Vegas –**

Not much information on this – the power of redistricting lies with the City Council, and they have hired consultants before to draw the council maps.

**Clark County ISD**

Not much information on this – the power of redistricting lies with the City Council, and they have hired consultants before to draw the council maps.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Brian Knudson– Las Vegas City Council, 2019-

*Brian Knudsen said being gay is just part of who he is, but he made sure voters knew that part of him.*

*"The first thing that we did was send out a holiday card in December of 2018 with a picture of me and my husband and our two adopted children. I wanted the world to know who I am," said Knudsen.*

*Las Vegas voters know who Knudsen is -- a small business owner, husband and father.*

*"Being gay is one part of my life but I'm also educated, I'm experienced and I've had a lot of roles in our community, leadership roles where I've been able to bring people together."*

*Knudsen worked for the city for nine years and was the president of the Boys and Girls Club of Southern Nevada.*

<https://www.fox5vegas.com/news/knudsen-is-first-openly-lgbt-person-elected-to-las-vegas-city-council/article_c9113630-8d9b-11e9-8761-fb19ae002a82.html>

Dallas Harris – Nevada State Senate, 2018-

*Dallas Harris is a Nevada State Senator representing District 11 in Clark County. Her legislative priorities include homelessness, education, and social equity as related to marijuana. When not in session, Dallas is an Adult Guardianship Attorney at the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada. Prior to joining Legal Aid Center, Dallas worked as an Administrative Attorney at the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada.*

*A Las Vegas native, Dallas returned to Southern Nevada in 2017 after working for Public Knowledge, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit organization specializing in telecommunications issues. As a policy fellow, Dallas spent much of her time lobbying at the Federal Communications Commission and occasionally Congress.*

*Prior to her time in the nation’s capital, Dallas attended the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 2008 and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science in 2009. Dallas continued her education at Claremont Graduate University, earning a Master of Arts in Public Policy in 2012. After gaining an interest in the legal profession, Dallas obtained her Juris Doctor at George Washington University Law School.*

<https://victoryfund.org/candidate/dallas-harris/>

Robert Gallegos - Las Vegas City Council , 2019-

*As a young boy, Robert Gallegos sat at his kitchen table and told two of his older brothers that when he grewup , he wanted to be involved*

*Community-minded: Las Vegas city council member Robert Gallegos brings his long history of activism and passion for the people of his district to City Hall—all while breaking barriers for the gay Latino community. In the community. Several decades later, a now-grown Gallegos leans back and, with a warm smile, recalls this story—this time as the newly sworn-in Las Vegas city council member for District I, and the first openly gay Latino council member in the state.*

*“I got that fever back then,” he says. “I remember telling my brothers that I wanted to see what I could do to help the community . . . and I’ve kept that promise to myself, because for thirty-some years I was involved in the community, and now I’m here representing the district.”*

[*http://www.outsmartmagazine.com/2014/02/meet-robert-gallegos/*](http://www.outsmartmagazine.com/2014/02/meet-robert-gallegos/)

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ in the Las Vegas area are such:

* Paradise
* Spring Valley
* Downtown

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

Nevada LGBT Chamber of Commerce: <https://www.glccnv.org/>

Las Vegas Pride: <https://lasvegaspride.org/>

LGBT Center of Southern Nevada: <https://thecenterlv.org/>

**LGBTQ Leadership:**

“Javier Smith, (he/him/they), has been involved with the Boise LGBT community since moving here in 1993 from northern Idaho. He served on the board of Your Family, Friends, & Neighbors (YFFN) where he helped organize Pride, helped start the Youth Alliance for Diversity, worked on the Anti-Violence Project, and a number of other community projects. He currently serves on the board of The Community Center and also allies linked for the prevention of HIV and AIDS (a.l.p.h.a.) which he helped start back in 2001.”

“Natalie Perry, (she/her/hers), believes in a future where queer families are equal and no longer have to hide in the closet out of fear. Born and raised in conservative Idaho, she aspires to reduce discrimination against LGBTQ+ families through the power of education and sharing her own family story. Natalie is a 2nd Gen queerspawn: when she was 12 years old her dad came out to her immediate family as gay . She is Pan-Demisexual and Greyromantic and is also an advocate for the Bi+ and Asexual (Ace)/Aromantic (Aro) communities. Natalie is an author, abstract artist, and public speaker. She previously represented Idaho on the Western Region Advisory Council for Family Equality. In 2018 she gave the first queerspawn talk on a TED affiliated stage in the United States. She currently participates in LGBTQ+ Families Day, is a COLAGE Ambassador and a Core Team member of Our Family App, a global and intersectional app for LGBTQ+ families .”

“Stephanie Grover, (she/her/hers), is a femme identified queer licensed social worker in the Boise community originally from the East Coast. Settling in Idaho a few years ago via Denver, CO with her partner, she has since expanded their family to include Cat and Jax, their furry children and many house plants. Stephanie volunteers in the community with several local LGBTQ+, outdoor and youth organizations. You can find her often on hikes around Boise, making/eating vegan food and working on a cure for her mildly green thumb. Stephanie works with the volunteers at TCC, as well as events and outreach at TCC. If you’ve emailed TCC, you’ve probably spoken to her!”

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Sondra Cosgrove ([lwv@lwvlasvegasvalley.org](mailto:lwv@lwvlasvegasvalley.org)) – Las Vegas LWV President

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Long Beach, CA 4/6

Long Beach, CA is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is Alamitos Beach |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Los Angeles, City of Long Beach, and Long Beach USD |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** Long Beach has independent citizens redistricting commission |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – The Mayor of Long Beach is an openly gay man |

**Districted Election Systems**

Long Beach has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Los Angeles– 5 districted Council Members, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/lac/1043452_BasicColorMap.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Long%20Beach/LA%20Supervisorial%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
* City of Long Beach– 9 districted Council Members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <http://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/ti/media-library/documents/gis/map-catalog/council_medium_24x28l_photos/>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Long%20Beach/Long%20Beach%20Council%20District.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood map: <https://datalbext.longbeach.gov/hub/documents/PopularMaps/LB_Neighborhoods_with_PopEst_V2.pdf>
* Long Beach School District Board – 5 districted elected members, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <http://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/ti/media-library/documents/gis/map-catalog/8.5x11l_lbusd/>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of California**

* **Fair Maps Act**

Line drawing requirements:

1. Population equality
2. Geographically Contiguous
3. Respect communities of interest – don’t split
4. Must have public hearings

Only one redistricting a decade – following the completion of the US Census.

**County of Los Angeles**

* **LA County Redistricting Commission –**Independent redistricting panel.

**City of Long Beach**

* **Long Beach Redistricting Commission** – Independent redistricting panel that has 13 members and 2 alternatives. Public hearings are required for every council district.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Robert Garcia – Mayor of Long Beach, 2014-

*First openly gay and youngest Mayor of Long Beach to be elected in 2014. Youngest Long Beach Councilmember to be elected in 2009. Co-authored Long Beach’s first equal benefits ordinance.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Long Beach’s most LGBTQ inclusive neighborhood is the Alamitos Beach area.

OC Register observes:

*Alamitos is home to a large lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community similar to The Castro in San Francisco, West Hollywood and San Diego’s Hillcrest. Each May, the neighborhood is covered in a sea of rainbow flags and balloons for the annual Long Beach Lesbian & Gay Pride parade and festival, the second-largest gay pride event in the country. The parade, now in its 31st year, snakes down Ocean Boulevard through the center of Alamitos Beach and ends at Alamitos Avenue.* <https://www.ocregister.com/2014/03/31/our-neighborhoods-alamitos-beach-is-a-microcosm-of-long-beach/>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

The Long Beach LGBTQ Center: <https://www.centerlb.org/>

Long Beach LGBT Chamber of Commerce: <https://www.lbglcc.org/>

Long Beach LGBT Chorus: <https://sccsingers.com/>

Long Beach Pride: <https://longbeachpride.com/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Long Beach.

Long Beach LGBTQ Center: <https://www.centerlb.org/dd_staff_cats/board-of-directors/>

*Individuals*

Stella Ursua – Chair and President of the Long Beach LGBTQ Center

Estevan Gamez – President of Long Beach LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Sandy Halloran – President of the Long Beach LGBT Chorus

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Paul Mitchell ([paul@redistrictingpartners.com](mailto:paul@redistrictingpartners.com)) – owner of Redistricting Partners

Nicolas Heidorn ([nick@heidornpcs.com](mailto:nick@heidornpcs.com)) – redistricting staff for Common Cause

Jane Bemis ([janewbemis@gmail.com](mailto:janewbemis@gmail.com)) – President of Long Beach LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Los Angeles, CA 6/6

Los Angeles, CA is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 6 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the City of West Hollywood and the neighborhood of Hollywood |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Los Angeles, City of Los Angeles, and Los Angeles USD |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Los Angeles and City of Los Angeles |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Historically, some businesses did discriminated against LGBTQ+ community |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – LGBT groups pushed for an LGBT council seat in 2011 (CD-4) |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Several members of West Hollywood City Council, LA Board of Supervisors, and the LA USD Board |

**Districted Election Systems**

Los Angeles has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* Los Angeles County Supervisors – 5 supervisors, single member districts, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/lac/1043452_BasicColorMap.pdf>
  + GIS Shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Los%20Angeles/LA%20Supervisorial%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
* City of Los Angeles – 15 Council Members, single member districts, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <http://ens.lacity.org/clk/rmdroot/clkrmdroot574108873_01182017.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Los%20Angeles/LA%20City%20Council%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Los%20Angeles/LA%20Neighborhoods.zip?role=personal>
* City of West Hollywood—5 at-large Council Members, four-year terms
* Los Angeles Unified School Board – 7 Board Members, single member districts, four-year terms.
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Los%20Angeles/LA%20USD%20Districts.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of California**

* **Fair Maps Act**

Line drawing requirements:

1. Population equality
2. Geographically Contiguous
3. Respect communities of interest – don’t split
4. Must have public hearings

Only one redistricting a decade – following the completion of the US Census.

**County of Los Angeles**

* **LA County Redistricting Commission –** Independent redistricting panel.

**City of Los Angeles**

* **LA City Redistricting Commission ­–** Not independent. Members are appointed by current member of City Council.

**City of West Hollywood**

No districts.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Sepi Shyne – West Hollywood Councilmember, 2021-

*Elected first openly gay person of color to the West Hollywood City Council in 2020.*

John Erickson – West Hollywood Councilmember, 2021-

*Elected in 2020 to the West Hollywood City Council.*

John D’Amico – West Hollywood Councilmember, 2011-

*Elected in 2010 to the West Hollywood City Council.*

John Heilman – West Hollywood Councilmember, 1984-2020

*First openly gay member of West Hollywood City Council. Co-authored legislation that established West Hollywood’s domestic partner benefits law. Started career as tenant advocate for the Coalition for Economic Survival (CES), which paved the way for the incorporation of West Hollywood.*

Jackie Goldberg – LA Unified School Board Member, District 5, 2019-  
*Started career on LAUSD Board in 1983 working to provide LGBT School Resources. Los Angeles’s first LGBTQ member of council where she served 1993-2000. The third LGBTQ member of the CA Legislature and a founding member of the legislative LGBT caucus.*

Sheila Kuehl – LA Board of Supervisors, District 3, 2014-

*First every openly gay member of the CA Legislature and a founding member of the legislative LGBT caucus. Served three terms as Member of the Assembly and two terms as Member of the Senate. First openly LGBTQ person on LA Board of Supervisors.*

*Strong proponent of enacting legislation to bar discrimination in schools on the basis of sexual orientation. Co-authored legislation to legalize gay marriage which was vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger. Authored legislation which criminalized hate crimes.*

John Perez – Assembly Speaker, 2010-2014

*First openly gay Speaker of the CA Assembly, representing South and East LA. Helped implement the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in CA. Second ever LGBT person to serve on UC Board of Regents.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the West Hollywood area.

Discover Los Angeles oberserves:

*Santa Monica Boulevard leads you into West Hollywood, the thumping heart of Southern California’s gay community. L.A.’s Gay Pride Parade and Festival takes place here each June, and half a million people gather for the annual, much bedazzled Halloween Carnaval. The rest of the year, it’s busy day and night with cafés, gyms, restaurants, bars and dance clubs. It is truly a national phenomenon that so many gay establishments fill the streets of WeHo and have been thriving there for so long.* <https://www.discoverlosangeles.com/things-to-do/gay-los-angeles-west-hollywood>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Los Angeles LGBT Center: <https://lalgbtcenter.org/>

LA Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://gmcla.org/>

LA LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.laglcc.org/>

LA Pride: <https://lapride.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Los Angeles.

AIDS Healthcare Foundation: <https://www.aidshealth.org/>

Stonewall Young Democrats: <https://www.stonewallyoungdems.org/>

*Individuals*

Lorri L. Jean- Chief Executive Officer of LA LGBT Center

Cynthia Davis- Chair of the Board of AIDS Healthcare Foundation

Greg Weaver – Chair of LA Gay Men’s Chorus

Chris Bowen- President of Stonewall Young Democrats

Sharon-Franklin Brown: Board President of LA Pride

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Paul Mitchell ([paul@redistrictingpartners.com](mailto:paul@redistrictingpartners.com)) – owner of Redistricting Partners

Nicolas Heidorn ([nick@heidornpcs.com](mailto:nick@heidornpcs.com)) – redistricting staff for Common Cause

Fatima Malik ([E-mail](https://my.lwv.org/node/15005)) – President of Los Angeles LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Barney’s Beanery Drops Anti-Homosexual Slogan*

<https://apnews.com/article/03a6ac9ddf8a1a4334353f8817de9c73>

# Miami, FL 5/6

Miami, FL is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the City of Miami Beach |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Miami-Dade, City of Miami, and City of Miami School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Miami-Dade and City of Miami |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Anita Bryant’s *Save Our Children* Campaign was headquartered in Miami |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Two members of the Miami Beach City Council |

**Districted Election Systems**

Miami has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* Miami-Dade County – 13 districted Commission Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.miamidade.gov/commission/library/all-commission-district-map.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Miami/Miami-Dad%20Comiss%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Miami – 5 districted Commission Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://miamigis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=e44c932135584e77b4ad9866a0798568>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Miami/Miami%20Commiss%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods Map:  
    <https://www.miamihal.com/miami-neighborhood-map>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Miami/Miami%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Miami Beach – 6 at-large commissioners, at-large mayor, four-year terms
* Miami City School Board – 9 districted Board Members, four-year terms.
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Miami/Miami-Dade%20School%20Board%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Florida**

**County of Miami-Dade**

County Board has total control over redistricting – 5 member subcommittee on redistricting is established. Outreach meetings must be established in all 13 districts.

**City of Miami**

Not a lot of available information online, seem like Council has total control over redistricting.

**City of Miami Beach**

No districts.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

David Richardson – Miami Beach City Commission, 2019-

*Florida’s first openly gay Legislator, Representing Miami and Miami Beach in the State House’s 113th District.*

Michael Gongora – Miami Beach City Commission, 2017-  
*Florida’s first openly gay Hispanic elected official and first gay member of the Miami Beach Commissioners. Served as President of Miami Beach’s Bar Association. Strong LGBTQ advocate for a Human Rights Commission in Miami Beach.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the Miami Beach area.

Travel Pulse observes:

*Miami Beach has something for every letter of the gay alphabet—LGBT&Q. As a city that has a long history of welcoming the gay traveler, everyone feels comfortable here. Our community is reflected not only in the large gay population that lives on the beach but also in its business employment. The beaches, the clubs and our many gay-centric hotel properties invite us in and go the extra mile to ensure all feel welcome.* <https://www.travelpulse.com/news/lgbtq/miami-beach-an-lgbtq-paradise.html>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

LGBTQ Center of Miami: <https://pridelines.org/>

LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Miami-Dade: <https://www.gaybizmiami.com/>

Miami Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://www.mgmchorus.org/>

Miami Beach Pride: <https://miamibeachpride.com/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Miami.

LGBTQ Center of Miami: <https://pridelines.org/board>

*Individuals*

Todd Delmay- Chairperson of Pridelines’s Board (LGBTQ Center)

Bruce Horwich- Chairman of Miami Beach Pride Board

Jesus Riviera- President of Miami-Dade Gay Men’s Chorus

Michael Aller- Chair of Miami-Dade LGBT Chamber of Commerce

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Monica Skoko Rodriguez ([info@lwvmiamidade.org](mailto:info@lwvmiamidade.org)) – Miami LWV President

Anjenys Gonzalez-Eilert ([ageilert@commoncause.org](mailto:ageilert@commoncause.org)) – FL Common Cause Executive Director

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies:** [Anita Bryant – “Save Our Children”](https://www.pbs.org/outofthepast/past/p5/1977.html)

# Milwaukee, WI 4/6

Milwaukee, WI is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Walker’s Point |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Milwaukee, City of Milwaukee, and City of Milwaukee School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Milwaukee has strong independent commission and City of Milwaukee |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Member of Milwaukee City Council and Member of Legislature representing Milwaukee |

**Districted Election Systems**

Milwaukee has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Milwaukee – 18 districted Supervisors, two-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://county.milwaukee.gov/files/county/county-clerk/Election-Commission/Maps/CountyMap2018-2020Lg.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Milwaukee/Milwaukee%20County%20Supervisor%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Milwaukee – 15 districted Council Members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://city.milwaukee.gov/ImageLibrary/Groups/ccCouncil/images/2008DistrictMap500.jpg>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Milwaukee/Milwaukee%20Alderman%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood PDF: <https://www.milwaukee.gov/ImageLibrary/Public/map4.pdf>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Milwaukee/Milwaukee%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Milwaukee School District Board – 8 districted members, 1 at-large member, four-year terms
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Milwaukee/Milwaukee%20School%20Board%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Wisconsin**

**County of Milwaukee**

* Independent Redistricting Committee
  + Members: 6 retired judges which are appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by County Board
  + Redistricting criteria: (1)Federal equal population mandates.(2)Redistricting criteria established by federal and state laws.(3)Maintenance of voting rights of Hispanic and African American and other citizens as guaranteed in the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965.(4)A map that consists of districts that take into account the integrity of existing neighborhoods and communities of interest within Milwaukee County.
  + Committee has three chances to recommend plans to County Board for approval before County Board can draw their own lines

**City of Milwaukee**

* Common Council has total control over redistricting
  + For the City of Milwaukee the redistricting process will be overseen by the Common Council’s Judiciary and Legislation Committee.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Tim Carpenter – Wisconsin’s 3rd Senate District, 2003-

*Openly gay and elected to Represent Milwaukee in the Assembly in 1984. Elected to the Wisconsin Senate in 2002.*

JoCasta Zamarripa – Milwaukee Common Council, 2021-

*First openly LGBT person to serve on the Milwaukee Common Council, elected in 2020. Represented the Wisconsin 8th Assembly District 2011-2021.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Milwaukee’s most LGBTQ inclusive neighborhood is the Walker’s Point Neighborhood.

Visit Milwaukee observes:

*Walker’s Point serves as one of the main gay residential areas in the city and hosts the majority of gay nightlife hotspots that range from mellow dive bars to full-scale nightclubs.* <https://www.visitmilwaukee.org/about-mke/diversity-and-inclusion/lgbtq/>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center: <https://www.mkelgbt.org/>

Milwaukee Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://www.cityoffestivalsmenschorus.org/>

Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce: <https://wislgbtchamber.com/>

Milwaukee Pride: <http://pridefest.com/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Milwaukee.

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center: <https://www.mkelgbt.org/our-staff>

*Individuals*

Nick Morgan – Milwaukee LGBT Community Center Board President

Ken Forney– Founding Artistic Director of Milwaukee Gay Men’s Chorus

Jason Rae – Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce President & CEO

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Peggy Creer ([league@lwvmilwaukee.org](mailto:league@lwvmilwaukee.org)) – Milwaukee LWV President

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies:** None found.

# Minneapolis, MN 4/6

Minneapolis, MN is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhoods of Downtown and Loring Park |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Hennepin, City of Minneapolis, and City of Minneapolis School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Hennepin and City of Milwaukee has very robust independent commission |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Two members of Minneapolis City Council |

**Districted Election Systems**

Minneapolis has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Hennepin – 7 districted Commissioners, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.sierraclub.org/minnesota/2020-hennepin-county-commissioner-voter-guide>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Minneapolis/Hennepin%20County%20Comiss%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Minneapolis – 13 districted Council Members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/city-council/find-my-ward/>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Minneapolis/Minneapolis%20Council%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood map: <https://homesmsp.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/6a00e550bbaeb38834014e8b2cc1f7970d-500wi.jpg>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Minneapolis/Minneapolis%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Minneapolis School District Board – 6 districted members, 2 at-large members, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Minneapolis/Minneapolis%20School%20Board%20Map.pdf?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Minnesota**

* Commissioner districts are bounded by precinct lines
  + No more than 10% population deviation
  + Districts must be contiguous and as compact as practicable
  + Public hearings are recommended, but not required

More info: <https://www.leg.mn.gov/docs/2019/other/190537.pdf> (page 39)

**County of Hennepin**

* 2012 Redistricting list of principles included respecting communities of interest

**City of Minneapolis**

* Minneapolis Charter Commission has authority over redistricting
  + Minneapolis District Court appoints 15 members to the Charter Commission
  + City Council cannot reject or change Charter Commission’s approved plan
  + Four public hearings must be held
  + Population deviation must be less than 5%

<http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@clerk/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-085434.pdf>

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Andrea Jenkins – Minneapolis Council Member, 2017-

*First openly transgender woman elected to City Council in a major US City.*

Phillipe Cunningham – Minneapolis Council Member, 2017-

*First openly transgender man elected to Minneapolis City Council.*

Karen Clark – Minnesota House Rep, 1981-2019

*First ever openly gay member of the Minnesota House, representing South Minneapolis. Fierce advocate for LGBT rights and was a co-author of Minnesota’s non-discrimination statute on the basis of sexual orientation.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Minneapolis’s most LGBTQ inclusive neighborhood is the Downtown/Loring Park Neighborhoods.

Lavender Magazine observes:

*We have Uptown. A lot of us are there. Loring Park has its own reputation. Both Downtowns seem to be magnets for us.* <https://www.lavendermagazine.com/uncategorized/the-birth-of-a-gaytion/>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Minneapolis Pride Institute: <https://pride-institute.com/>

Twin Cities Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://tcgmc.org/>

Twin Cities LGBT Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.twincitiesquorum.com/membership>

Twin Cities Pride: <https://tcpride.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Minneapolis.

Minneapolis Pride Institute: <https://pride-institute.com/about-us/our-staff/>

*Individuals*

Terri Hayden – Minneapolis Pride Institute CEO

Ron Gersdorf– President of Quorum Board (LGBT Chamber of Commerce)

John Azbill-Salisbury– Twin Cities Gay Men’s Chorus Board President

Felix Foster – Twin Cities Pride Board Vice-Chair

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Annastacia Belladonna-Carrera ([abelladonna@commoncause.org](mailto:abelladonna@commoncause.org)) – MN Common Cause Executive Director

Colleen Moriarty ([vote@lwvmpls.org](mailto:vote@lwvmpls.org)) – Minneapolis LWV President

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Nashville, TN 5/6

Nashville, TN is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Church Street |
|  | - **Districted Elections** City of Nashville and Nashville School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** City of Nashville |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Strong political culture of opposing LGBTQ+ protections |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – 5 members of the Nashville and Davidson County Metro Council |

**Districted Election Systems**

Nashville has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* City of Nashville – 35 districted Council Members, 5 at-large members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <http://maps.nashville.gov/webimages/MapGallery/PDFMaps/2011%20Council%20Districts.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/home/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Nashville/Nashville%20Council%20Districts>
  + Neighborhoods Map:  
    <http://maps.nashville.gov/webimages/MapGallery/PDFMaps/Community%20Planning%20Areas%20(36x36).pdf>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Nashville/Nashville%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Nashville School Board – 9 elected districted members, four-year terms
  + Current map: <http://maps.nashville.gov/webimages/MapGallery/PDFMaps/2011%20School%20Board%20Districts.pdf>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Tennessee**

**City of Nashville**

In Nashville, the redistricting process has been determined by the Metro Planning Department, Metro Council, and at times, community and legal advocates.

After the 2020 census, the Planning Department can propose boundaries for the 35 single-member council districts based on new population data. The council will then vote on these district boundaries.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Zach Young – Nashville Metropolitan Council, 2019-

Emily Benedict – Nashville Metropolitan Council, 2019-

James Bradford - Nashville Metropolitan Council, 2019-

Brett Withers – Nashville Metropolitan Council, 2015-

Nancy VanReece – Nashville Metropolitan Council, 2015-

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The 3 blocks on Church Street from 15th to 18th are home to many LGBT businesses including nightclubs like Blue Gene’s, Play, Tribe, Blu, Restaurants like Red and the Church Street Cafe, and the Outloud Bookstore. It is a growing area for LGBT cultural and community development.

East Nashville, Green Hills, Vanderbilt, West End, Hillsboro Village, 12South

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

[Oasis Center](https://oasiscenter.org/): a community center in Nashville that has been helping thousands of youth for decades. Oasis Center provides a wide range of opportunities that to support the diverse needs of youth and their families. Just Us is a collection of programs sponsored by and at Oasis Center that specifically reaches out to LGBTQ youth. These programs are dedicated to helping LGBTQ and questioning youth to achieve their full potential. The mission of Just Us is to provide LGBTQ+ youth with “a liberating space where they can be authentic and celebrate the fluidity of identity.”

[Nashville LGBTQ Chamber](https://www.nashvillelgbtchamber.org/): a strong and essential advocate of the Greater Nashville LGBTQ business community. In total, the chamber represents over 400+ businesses, community groups, and individuals in Nashville and the surrounding area.

[PFLAG Nashville](http://pflagnashville.org/resources-new/organizations/): the city’s local chapter of the national PFLAG organization, which is the largest grassroots organization of its kind in the country. PFLAG is known nationally for its mission of supporting LGBTQ people, friends, family, and allies in a countless variety of ways. PFLAG has 500 chapters and more than 200,000 members in the United States and plays an essential role in providing advocacy, support, and resources to the LGBTQ community.

[Nashville Pride](https://www.nashvillepride.org/): Nashville’s biggest LGBTQ event each year. Typically held each June, its highlights include a huge street festival featuring over 200 vendors annually, a lively parade, several cultural and educational events, countless opportunities to network and make connections, and more! Truly, it is a celebration of the diverse and wonderful LGBTQ community and all that it adds to the city of Nashville.

**LTBTQ Leadership**

Ron Snitker: President of Nashville LGBT Chamber

Greg Cason: VP of Nashville LGBT Chamber

[LGBTE Spotlight Businesses](https://members.nashvillelgbtchamber.org/lgbtbe-spotlights)

LGBT Candidates: Emily Benedict- District 7, Russ Bradford- District 13, Charles Flowers- not elected, David McMurry- not elected, Nancy VanReece- District 8, Zach Young- District 10, Brett Withers- District 6

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Madeline Garr ([contact@lwvnashville.org](mailto:contact@lwvnashville.org)) – Nashville LWV President

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Tennessee Gov. Lee to sign anti-LGBTQ adoption bill despite Amazon, Nike opposition*

<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/01/17/tennessee-nears-anti-lgbtq-bill-despite-amazon-nike-opposition.html>

*Anti-Muslim, anti-LGBT DA says critics are infringing on his rights*

<https://www.newschannel5.com/news/newschannel-5-investigates/capitol-hill/anti-muslim-anti-lgbt-da-says-critics-are-infringing-on-his-rights>

*New Tennessee Law Deepens Discrimination Against LGBT People*

https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/01/28/new-tennessee-law-deepens-discrimination-against-lgbt-people#

# New Orleans, LA 5/6

New Orleans, LA is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of the French Quarter |
|  | - **Districted Elections** City of New Orleans and New Orleans School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** City of New Orleans |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Some elected officials have opposed LGBTQ+ rights |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Member of the Orleans Parish School Board |

**Districted Election Systems**

New Orleans has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* City of New Orleans – 5 districted Council Members, 2 at-large members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://council.nola.gov/council/media/Assets/maps/NOLA_Council_Districts.pdf?ext=.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/New%20Orleans/New%20Orleans%20Council%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods Map:  
    <https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?msa=0&mid=13YfshUWwb_u95Uq8odW0rsVKcWI&ll=29.97380331757693%2C-90.06836149999998&z=12>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: [https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/New%20Orleans/New%20Orleans%20Neighborhood%20](https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/New%20Orleans/New%20Orleans%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal)
* Orleans Parish School Board – 7 districted Board Members, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=143wwiNB8Uc73OhBPPhdq_512pF8xx-7v&ll=30.01841847871996%2C-89.94201225351561&z=11>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/New%20Orleans/New%20Orleans%20School%20Board%20Map.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Louisiana**

**City of New Orleans**

* City Council has 6 months to pass a redistricting ordinance, otherwise a redistricting committee is established
  + 13 member consisting of 6 university representatives and 7 residents appointed by members of the council
  + Redistricting plan agreed to in committee is automatically enacted by the full Council

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Dr. J.C. Romero – Orleans Parish School Board, 2020-

*Orleans Parish’s third openly gay elected official. Defeated an incumbent who was a vocal opponent of protections for gay and lesbian students.*

Thomas Robichaux – Orleans Parish School Board, 2008-2012  
*First openly gay school board member. Fought to keep creationism out of classroom curriculum and pushed anti-bullying policies specifically regarding the LGBTQ community.*

Seth Bloom – Orleans Parish School Board, 2008-2016

*First openly gay school board member. Unsuccessful candidate for New Orleans City Council.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the French Quarter neighborhood.

Gay Travel observes:

*New Orleans is arguably the most gay-friendly city in the American South and boasts quite a few gay bars and clubs for its size. Most of the city's gay bars are scattered on or near Bourbon Street, the French Quarter's world-renowned party spot. The costumes and colorful characters during Mardi Gras (or really: any other weekend on Bourbon Street) make NOLA a very gay-friendly city.* <https://www.gaytravel.com/gay-guides/new-orleans>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

LGBTQ Center of New Orleans: <https://lgbtccneworleans.org/>

LGBT Chamber of Commerce of the Gulf South: <https://gslgbtchamber.org/>

New Orleans Gay Men’s Chorus: <http://www.nogmc.com/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in New Orleans.

LGBTQ Center of New Orleans: <https://lgbtccneworleans.org/about/board-directors/>

*Individuals*

Syria Jackson – President of New Orleans LGBT Community Center Board

Kelly Kerr – President of New Orleans Gay Men’s Chorus

Mike Daly- President of Gulf South LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Jared Brossett- LGBT Ally on the New Orleans City Council, former member of LA State House

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Jessica Nieblas ([LWVNO@bellsouth.net](mailto:LWVNO@bellsouth.net)) – Co-President of New Orleans LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Anti-LGBT Activist Loses Orleans Parish School Board Race to a Gay Educator*

<https://www.the74million.org/anti-lgbt-activist-loses-orleans-parish-school-board-race-to-a-gay-educator-4-other-nola-runoff-elections-settled/>

# New York, NY 5/6

New York, NY is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Greenwich Village, Hell’s Kitchen, Park Slope, and Prospect Heights |
|  | - **Districted Elections** City of New York and New York School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** City of New York |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Not currently but Stonewall Riots were set off in 60s because of police harassment |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Several members of the New York City Council, Members of Congress, and Members of the Legislature |

**Districted Election Systems**

New York has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* City of New York – 51 Council Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://council.nyc.gov/districts/>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/New%20York/NYC%20Council%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods PDF Map:  
    <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/planning/download/pdf/data-maps/city-neighborhoods/neighbor.pdf>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/New%20York/NYC%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* New York City School Board – 13 appointed Board Members, 5 of which represent a borough, four-year terms.
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/New%20York/NYC%20School%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of New York**

**City of New York**

* 15-person Redistricting commission
  + 5 appointed by majority party, 3 by minority party, 7 by mayor
  + Geographic and ethnic diversity is required
  + Population deviation can’t exceed 10%
  + Adopted plan by commission becomes law

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Corey Johnson – NYC Council Speaker, 2018-  
*New York’s first openly gay male Speaker. Represents SoHo and Greenwich Village in District 3.*

Christine Quinn – NYC Council Speaker, 2006-2013

*First openly gay NYC Council Speaker. Powerful LGBT rights advocate that led campaign to allow gays to openly march in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade and authored legislation that allowed same-sex partners to share health care benefits. Authored legislation that barred indoor smoking in NYC.*

*Represented SoHo and Greenwich Village in District 3.*

Deborah Glick – Rep. for 66th State Assembly District, 1991-

*New York’s first openly gay state legislator. Authored New York’s Sexual Orientation Non-Discrimination Act (SONDA). Strong advocate for women’s right to choose and getting contraceptive health care covered by health insurance providers.*

Ritchie Torres – NY’s 15th Congressional District, 2021-  
*First openly gay black man elected to Congress, representing the Bronx. Represented the 15th District on the NYC Council.*

*Secured funding for the first LGBTQ homeless shelter in the Bronx. Strong public housing advocate and secured funding for legal aid to represent public housing tenants facing eviction.*

Mondaire Jones – NY’s 17th Congressional District, 2021-  
*First openly gay black man elected to Congress, representing the Bronx and Westchester County.*

Daniel Dromm – Council Member for NYC’s 25th District, 2010-

*First gay Council Member from outside of Manhattan, representing Queens.*

Jimmy Van Bramer– Council Member for NYC’s 26th District, 2010-  
*First gay Council Member from outside of Manhattan, representing Queens. Started career as reporter for Gay City News.*

Carlos Menchaca – Council Member for NYC’s 38th District, 2014-  
*LGBT Liaison for Speaker Christine Quinn between 2011 and 2013. First gay Mexican-American elected to the NYC Council, representing Brooklyn. Candidate for 2021 NYC Mayoral Election.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the Greenwich Village neighborhood.

Localize observes:

*Before the Stonewall riots in the summer of 1969, Greenwich Village had already long been the original “Gayborhood.” The uprising, largely led by transgender women, put the Village, and New York City, on the map as a gay mecca, and spurred the creation of LGBT rights groups nationwide.* <https://www.localize.city/blog/lgbtq-friendly-neighborhoods-of-new-york-city/>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

LGBTQ Center of New York: <https://gaycenter.org/>

LGBT Chamber of Commerce of New York: <https://www.nyclgbtqscc.com/>

New York Gay Men’s Chorus: <http://www.nycgmc.org/>

NYC Pride: <https://www.nycpride.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in New York.

LGBTQ Center of New York: <https://gaycenter.org/about/staff/>

*Individuals*

Rahul Tripathi- Board President of NY’s LGBTQ Center

Skie Ocasio- Board Chair of NYC’s Gay Men’s Chorus

Reverend Carmen Hernandez- Founder of NYC’s LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce

Sue Doster- Co-Chair of NYC Pride

Andre Thomas- Co-Chair of NYC Pride

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Natalia Philatova ([nphilatova@commoncause.org](mailto:nphilatova@commoncause.org)) – Assistant Director of NY Common Cause

Dianne Burrows ([office@lwvnyc.org](mailto:office@lwvnyc.org)) – President of New York City LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*June 28, 1969: Turning Point in Gay Rights History*

<https://www.nytimes.com/2010/06/16/movies/16stone.html>

# Orlando, FL 4/6

Orlando, FL is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** are the neighborhoods of Audubon Park and Coytown |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Orange, City of Orlando, and Orange County School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Orange and City of Orlando |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Member of Orlando City Council |

**Districted Election Systems**

Orlando has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Orange – 6 districted Commission Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Orlando/Orange%20County%20Comiss%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Orlando – 6 districted Council Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://gis.orlando.gov/PDF_Docs/CommissionerDistrictMaps/CommissionerDistrictMap8x11.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Orlando/Orlando%20Comiss%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods Map:  
    <https://www.orlandoweekly.com/orlando/a-mostly-accurate-map-of-orlandos-neighborhoods-and-districts/Content?oid=25803000>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Orlando/Orlando%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Orange County School Board – 7 districted members, at-large chairman, four-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Florida**

**County of Orange**

* 15 member Redistricting Advisory Committee
  + Each commissioner appoints 2 members and the County Mayor appoint 3
  + Adopted plan automatically becomes law

**City of Orlando**

* 9-member Redistricting Advisory Board (RAB)
  + Each Council Member appoints a representative and the Mayor appoints three
  + Adopted plan automatically becomes law

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Patty Sheehan – Orlando City Council, 2000-

*Central Florida’s first openly gay elected official. Authored legislation to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. Authored legislation to set up domestic partnership registration.*

Joe Saunders – Rep. Florida’s 49th State House District, 2012-2014

*First openly gay member of FL Legislature, representing North Orlando. Started career as equality Florida field organizer.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the Audubon Park and Coytown.

Orlando Weekly observes:

*“Audubon Park and Coytown…which have the highest rates of same-sex households in Orlando”* <https://www.orlandoweekly.com/Blogs/archives/2019/05/23/houses-are-more-valuable-in-orlandos-gayborhoods>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

The Center: <https://thecenterorlando.org/>

LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida: <https://thepridechamber.org/>

Orlando Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://orlandogaychorus.org/>

Orlando Pride: <https://comeoutwithpride.com/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Orlando.

The Center: <https://thecenterorlando.org/staff/>

*Individuals*

Jeff Prystajko– Board President of Orlando Pride

Roxy Santiago – President of The Center

Sean Mundyschein- Chairperson of Orlando Gay Men’s Chorus

Kellie Parkin- Executive Director of Orlando LGBT Chamber of Commerce

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Anjenys Gonzalez-Eilert ([ageilert@commoncause.org](mailto:ageilert@commoncause.org)) – Common Cause FL President

Patricia Brigham ([patricia@lwvfl.org](mailto:patricia@lwvfl.org)) – President of Orlando LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Philadelphia, PA 5/6

Philadelphia, PA is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Gayborhood |
|  | - **Districted Elections** City of Philadelphia |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** City of Philadelphia |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Some religious opposition to LGBTQ+ protections |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Two members of the PA Legislature representing Philadelphia |

**Districted Election Systems**

Philadelphia has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* City of Philadelphia – 10 districted Council Members, 7 at-large Council Members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://phlcouncil.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/District_Map.jpg>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Philadelphia/Philadelphia%20Council%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood PDF: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/110197522118502414/>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Philadelphia/Philadelphia%20Neighborhoods.zip?role=personal>
* Philadelphia School District Board – 9 at-large appointed members, four-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Pennsylvania**

**City of Philadelphia**

* Philadelphia City Council has total control over redistricting

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Brian Sims – Member of PA House, 2012-

*Elected as first openly gay member of PA Legislature in 2012, representing Philadelphia’s 182nd House District. Vocal proponent of LGBTQ rights in the legislature – authoring legislation to ban conversion therapy and legalizing same-sex marriage in Pennsylvania.*

*Started career as President of Equality Pennsylvania and as Chairman of Gay and Lesbian Lawyers of Philadelphia (GALLOP). Served on the National Campaign Board of the LGBTQ Victory Fund.*

Malcolm Kenyatta – Member of PA House, 2019-

*Elected first openly gay person of color to the PA Legislature in 2018, representing Philadelphia’s 181st House District.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Philadelphia’s most LGBTQ inclusive neighborhood is the Gayborhood.

Visit Philly observes:

*Don’t miss a visit to the Gayborhood, a Center City neighborhood that sets itself apart with rainbow street signs as well as restaurants and bars owned by and catering to LGBTQ-identified clientele.* <https://www.visitphilly.com/lgbt/>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

William Way LGBT Community Center: <https://www.waygay.org/>

The Attic Youth Center: <https://www.atticyouthcenter.org/>

Philadelphia Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://www.pgmc.org/>

Independence Business Alliance (LGBT): <https://www.thinkiba.com/>

Philly Pride: <http://www.phillygaypride.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Philadelphia.

William Way LGBT Community Center: <https://www.waygay.org/team>

*Individuals*

Sue Gildea – Co-Chair of William Way LGBT Community Center Board

Jasper Liem – Board President of the Attic Youth Center

Anastasia Zuccaro– Board President of Philadelphia Gay Men’s Chorus

Cecilia Isaacs-Blundin– President of Independence Business Alliance

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Suzanne Almeida ([salmeida@commoncause.org](mailto:salmeida@commoncause.org)) – Interim Director of Redistricting Program at PA Common Cause

Lauren Cristella ([lcristella@lwvphilly.org](mailto:lcristella@lwvphilly.org)) – President of Philadelphia LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*A more conservative Supreme Court hears Philly same-sex foster parent case*

<https://whyy.org/articles/a-more-conservative-supreme-court-hears-philly-same-sex-foster-parent-case/>

# Phoenix, AZ 5/6

Phoenix, AZ is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Melrose |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Maricopa, City of Phoenix, and Phoenix USD Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Maricopa and City of Phoenix |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – strong political culture of opposing LGBTQ+ protections |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Member of Maricopa County Supervisors, two members of Maricopa County Constables, and several members of AZ Legislature representing Phoenix |

**Districted Election Systems**

Phoenix has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Maricopa – 5 districted Supervisors, four-year terms
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Phoenix/Maricopa%20County%20Supervisor%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Phoenix – 8 districted Council Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.phoenix.gov/budgetsite/Documents/bud08intro.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Phoenix/Phoenix%20Council%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods Map:  
    <https://www.phoenixasap.com/phoenix-urban-villages/>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Phoenix/Phoenix%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Phoenix Union School District Board – 5 districted board members, two at-large, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.pxu.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=40880&dataid=57613&FileName=20190904_BoundryMap_with_Wards-for-Website.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Phoenix/Maricopa%20School%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Arizona**

**County of Maricopa**

**City of Phoenix**

Not a lot of available information online regarding redistricting, but appears that the Council and Board have sole authority to redistrict.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Kyrsten Sinema – US Senator for Arizona, 2018-

*America’s first openly bisexual member of both the House and Senate. Co-chaired “Arizona Together,” a campaign to defeat Proposition 107 which would have barred same-sex marriage and civil unions in 2006. Unsuccessfully led the 2008 campaign to defeat Proposition 102 which barred same-sex marriage in Arizona. Fierce advocate for the DREAM Act.*

Steve Gallardo – Maricopa County Supervisor, 2014-

Karyn Lathan – Maricopa County Constable, 2019-

Darlene Martinez – Maricopa County Constable, 2019-

Robert Meza - Arizona’s 30th House District, 2019-

*Elected to Represent West Phoenix in the State House in 2002. Served in the State Senate 2011-2019 before returning to the State House. Founding member of AZ LGBT Caucus.*

Daniel Hernandez Jr. – Arizona’s 2nd House District, 2017-

*Started career as intern from Congresswoman Gabby Giffords. Elected to Sunnyside Unified School District Board in 2011. Elected to the legislature in 2016 and founding member of AZ LGBT Caucus.*

Tony Navarrete – Arizona’s 30th Senate District, 2019-

*Elected to AZ’s 30th House District in 2016 and founding member of AZ LGBT Caucus. Elected to Arizona’s 30th Senate District in 2018. Started career with Promise Arizona, a pro-immigration advocacy group focused on registering Latinos.*

Andres Cano – Arizona’s 3rd House District, 2019-

*Started career as outreach coordinator for a member of the Maricopa Board of Supervisors. Human Rights Campaign (HRC) fellow for his work to reduce HIV transmission among Latinos in Southern Arizona. At the age of 28, the youngest elected LGBT Lawmaker in AZ, representing Tucson.*

*Arlando Teller –* Arizona’s 7th House District, 2019-

*First openly gay member of the Navajo Nation elected to the AZ Legislature.*

Cesar Chavez – Arizona’s 29th House District, 2017-

*Elected to the legislature in 2016 and founding member of AZ LGBT Caucus.*

Ken Cheuvront – Justice of the Peace in the Encanto Justice Precinct, 2019-

*Became the first openly gay member of the Arizona legislature in 1994. Elected to the Senate in 2002.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the Melrose neighborhood.

Phoenix Pride observes:

*The Melrose area is usually the starting point for LGBTQ+ tourists and locals; the quintessential gayborhood of Central Phoenix. It’s the one-mile stretch of Seventh Avenue between Indian School and Camelback and is known for being LGBT-friendly. Melrose boasts eclectic shops and is home to many of Phoenix’s gay bars along the best S-curve in the Valley.* <https://phoenixpride.org/phoenix-rainbow-crosswalk/#:~:text=The%20Melrose%20area%20is%20usually,known%20for%20being%20LGBT%2Dfriendly>.

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

One n Ten: <https://onenten.org/>

Greater Phoenix Equality Chamber of Commerce: <https://phoenixgaychamber.org/>

Phoenix Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://phxgmc.org/>

Phoenix Pride: <https://phoenixpride.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Phoenix.

One n Ten: <https://onenten.org/about-us/#board_directors>

*Individuals*

Rick McCartney. – Chair of One n Ten Board

Brandon Sours – President of Phoenix Gay Men’s Chorus

Landen C.L. Smith – President of Phoenix Pride

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Pinny Sheoran ([info@lwvmetrophoenix.org](mailto:info@lwvmetrophoenix.org)) – President of Phoenix LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Report: Arizona 5th worst for anti-LGBTQ crime*

<https://www.yourvalley.net/stories/report-arizona-5th-worst-for-anti-lgbtq-crime,77864?>

*Dem Calls for Kern to Resign as Rules Chair Over Anti-LGBTQ Comments*

<https://www.phoenixnewtimes.com/news/lgbtq-discrimination-republican-anthony-kern-rights-tea-party-11407509>

# Portland, OR 4/6

Portland, OR is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Burnside Triangle |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Multnomah and Portland School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Multnomah |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – OR House Speaker representing Portland and Member of Portland Commission |

**Districted Election Systems**

Portland has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Multnomah – 4 districted Supervisors, at-large chair, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://multco.us/commissioner-vega-pederson/district-maps>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Portland/Multnomah%20Comiss%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Portland – 4 at-large commissioners, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Neighborhoods Map:  
    <https://www.portland.gov/sites/default/files/2020-03/34x44_neighborhoods_coalitions_webmap.pdf>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: [https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Portland/Portland%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=persona](https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Portland/Portland%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal)
* Portland School Board – 7 districted board members, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.pps.net/cms/lib/OR01913224/Centricity/Domain/219/PPS_District_Map_11x17_2019_board_districts.pdf>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Oregon**

**County of Multnomah**

* Auditors office is responsible for redistricting Commissioner Districts
  + General geographic characteristics of original districts must be respected

**City of Portland**

No districts.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Kate Brown – Governor of Oregon, 2015-

*Started career in 1991 representing Portland as Oregon’s 13th House District Rep. Represented Portland as Oregon’s 21st Senate District Rep from 1997 to 2009. First openly LGBT Oregon Secretary of State and Governor.*

Tina Kotek – Oregon House Speaker, 2013-

*Started career as public policy advocate for the Oregon Food Bank. First openly LGBT Oregon House Speaker, representing Portland as the Oregon 44th House District Rep.*

Sam Adams – Mayor of Portland, 2009-2012

*Started career with Congressman Peter DeFazio. Successfully managed Vera Katz’s Mayoral Campaign in 1991. Elected as Portland’s first openly gay city commissioner in 2004. Elected first openly gay Mayor in America’s top 30 cities in 2008. Strong advocate for environmental sustainability.*

Dan Ryan – Portland City Commissioner, 2020-

*Elected to the Portland School Board and served from 2005 to 2008. Strong advocate for public education. Elected to the City Commission in 2020, becoming the 3rd LGBT City Councilor in history.*

Chloe Eudaly. – Portland City Commissioner, 2017-2021

*Elected in 2016 as Portland’s second LGBT Commissioner. Strong advocate for affordable housing.*

Rob Nosse – Oregon’s 42nd State House District, 2014-

*Represents Portland as an openly gay member of the legislature.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the Burnside Triangle neighborhood.

Willamette Week observes:

*Portland's Burnside Triangle is a triangular district that underwent a complete renaissance and is now thoroughly established as a GLBT enclave stretching over several energetic city blocks. The influence of Burnside spreads into nearby neighborhoods including the Pearl District (a former industrial section of old Portland that now booms with art and commerce) and the rather upscale and upbeat Northwest neighborhood.* <https://www.wweek.com/portland/blog-7334-in-the-gay-tto-portland-queer-hood-comes-in-at-1.html>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Q Center: <https://www.pdxqcenter.org/>

Portland Area Business Association: <http://www.paba.com/>

Portland Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://phxgmc.org/>

Pride Northwest: [https://Portlandpride.org/](https://phoenixpride.org/)

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Portland.

Q Center: <https://www.pdxqcenter.org/board-of-directors>

*Individuals*

Bryce Britton – President of Portland Area Business Association

Jim Fotter – Board Chair of Q Center

Malo Ala’ilima – Board President of Pride Northwest

Thom Whittemore – President of Portland’s Gay Men’s Chorus

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Kate Titus ([ktitus@commoncause.org](mailto:ktitus@commoncause.org)) – Executive Director of Common Cause Oregon

Debbie Kaye ([president@lwvpdx.org](mailto:president@lwvpdx.org)) – President of Portland LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Providence, RI 5/6

Providence, RI is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** are the neighborhoods of Downtown and Federal Hill |
|  | - **Districted Elections** City of Providence |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** City of Providence |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Some religious opposition to LGBTQ+ protections |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Member of Congress, Members of legislature representing Providence, and Member of the Providence City Council |

**Districted Election Systems**

Providence has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* City of Providence – 8 districted Council Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <http://council.providenceri.com/efile/217>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Providence/Providence%20Ward%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Providence/Providence%20Neighborhod%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Providence Union School District Board – 9 at-large members, three-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Rhode Island**

**City of Providence**

* Redistricting committee of 5 members (3 majority party, 2 minority party)
  + Politicians may serve on committee
  + Location of incumbent’s residence may not be taken into account
  + Must have 4 public meetings
  + Council must approve with a 2/3 vote

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

David Cicilline – Rhode Island 1st Congressional District Representative, 2011-

*America’s first openly gay mayor from a Capital City, elected in Providence in 2002. Elected to Congress in 2010 following two terms as mayor.*

Sam Bell - Rhode Island’s 5th Senate District, 2019-

*Openly LGBT Providence Senator elected in 2018.*

Rebecca Kislak – Rhode Island’s 4th House District, 2019-

*Openly LGBT Providence House representative elected in 2018.*

John Goncalves *–* Providence City Council District 1, 2020-

*Openly gay Providence Councilman representing the city’s gayborhood and elected in 2020.*

Rachel Miller – Providence City Council District 13, 2018-

*Openly LGBT Providence Councilwoman and elected in 2018.*

Gordon Fox – Rhode Island’s House Speaker, 2010-2014

*America’s first openly gay Speaker in a state house. Helped author the legalization of same-sex marriage in Rhode Island.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Providence doesn’t have a defined “gayborhood,” however, the area located right around downtown/Federal Hill is considered to be the most gay friendly.

Go Providence observes:

*There is no "gay-borhood" in Providence. Members of the gay and lesbian community can be found throughout the city's many neighborhoods. From Federal Hill — Providence's famed Little Italy — to the funky cool of the East Side, the city offers plenty to see and do.* <https://www.goprovidence.com/things-to-do/gay-providence/>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Youth Pride: <https://www.youthprideri.org/>

Rhode Island Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://www.rigmc.org/>

Rhode Island Pride: <https://prideri.org/>

Open Door Health: <https://odhpvd.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Providence.

Youth Pride: <https://www.youthprideri.org/about-youth-pride-inc/staff/>

*Individuals*

Guillaume Bagal – Chair of Youth Pride Board

Matthew Balsamo – President of Rhode Island Gay Men’s Chorus Board

Dr. Amy Nunn – Executive Director of Open Door Health

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

John Marion ([john\_marion@commoncauseri.org](mailto:john_marion@commoncauseri.org)) – Executive Director of RI Common Cause

Hillary Salmons ([helprov@ids.net](mailto:helprov@ids.net)) – President of Providence LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*Providence Bishop Tobin criticizes Pope Francis again, this time over same-sex civil unions*

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/10/21/metro/bishop-tobin-criticizes-pope-francis-again-this-time-over-civil-unions-gay-people/>

# Provo, UT 3/6

Orlando, FL is not a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 3 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** |
|  | - **Districted Elections** City of Provo and Provo School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** City of Provo |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – County Supervisor lost re-election after coming out as gay. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Not currently --former gay member of Utah County Commission lost re-election in 2020 |

**Districted Election Systems**

Provo has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Utah – 3 at-large Commissioners, four-year terms
* City of Provo – 5 districted Council Members, 2 at-large Council Members, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.dropbox.com/home/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Provo?preview=Provo+Council+Map.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Provo/Provo%20Council%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood PDF: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Provo/Provo%20Neighborhood%20Map.pdf?role=personal>
* Provo School District Board – 7 districted elected members, three-year terms
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Provo/Provo%20School%20Board%20Map.pdf?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Utah**

**County of Utah**

No districts.

**City of Provo**

City Council has full control over redistricting.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Nathan Ivie – Utah County Commissioner, 2016-2020

*Utah’s first openly gay Republican politician.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Provo’s most LGBTQ inclusive neighborhood is Downtown.

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Encircle: <https://encircletogether.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Provo.

Encircle: <https://encircle2020.squarespace.com/team>

*Individuals*

Stephenie Larsen – Founder and CEO of Encircle

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

[presidents@lwvutah.org](mailto:presidents@lwvutah.org) – Utah LWV President

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

*After coming out as gay, Nathan Ivie loses in conservative Utah County*

[*https://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2020/07/01/after-coming-out-gay/*](https://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2020/07/01/after-coming-out-gay/)

# Rochester, NY 4/6

Rochester, NY is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood around Park Avenue |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Monroe and City of Rochester |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** City of Rochester |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Member of NY Legislature representing Rochester |

**Districted Election Systems**

Rochester has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Monroe – 29 districted legislators, at-large County Executive, staggered two-year terms and four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.monroecounty.gov/files/leg/County%20Leg%20Color%20with%20Index%202018.pdf>
* City of Rochester – 4 districted Council Members, 5 at-large members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.monroecounty.gov/files/boe/maps/2020/City%20Council.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Rochester/Rochester%20Council%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood map: <https://www.rochestersubway.com/images/photos/rochester-neighborhoods-map-younglion.jpg>
* Rochester Union School District Board – 9 at-large elected members, four-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

**State of New York**

**County of Monroe**

* County Legislature has full control of redistricting
  + County legislature hasn’t been redistricted since 2001
  + In 2001 process, Monroe County Board of Elections recommended a map to the legislature for approval

**City of Rochester**

* Council has total control over redistricting.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Harry Bronson – New York’s 138th District Assemblyman, 2011-

*Monroe County’s first openly gay member of the Legislature, elected to represent Rochester in 2005. New York’s first openly gay member of the Legislature from Upstate New York, elected in 2010.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

Rochester doesn’t have a defined “gayborhood,” however, the area located around Park Avenue is considered to be the most gay friendly.

Gay Real Estate observes:

*Unlike some cities that have one specific “gayborhood,” the LGBTQ community in Rochester is spread across the entire city – which simply means there are many wonderful neighborhoods to live in! Even though the gay community is spread across the city, the Park Avenue corridor is the center of the city’s gay neighborhood. There are many restaurants, shops, and entertainment venues in that neighborhood, as well as several charming homes.* <https://www.gayrealestate.com/news/usa/new-york/rochester/rochester-ny-gay-city-guide.html>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Out Alliance: <https://outalliance.org/>

Rochester Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://thergmc.org/>

Trillium Health: <https://www.trilliumhealth.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Rochester.

Out Alliance: <https://outalliance.org/about-2/board-of-directors/>

*Individuals*

Luis Burgos – Board President of Out Alliance

Ted Smith – Chair of Rochester Gay Men’s Chorus Board

Cindy Beckner – Board Chair of Trillium Health

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Natalia Philatova ([nphilatova@commoncause.org](mailto:nphilatova@commoncause.org)) – Assistant Director of NY Common Cause

Judy Sternberg ([info@lwv-rma.org](mailto:info@lwv-rma.org)) – President of Rochester LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Sacramento CA 6/6

Sacramento, CA is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 6 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Lavender Heights |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Sacramento, City of Sacramento, and Sacramento USD Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Sacramento and City of Sacramento |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Some religious opposition to LGBTQ+ protections |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – Council Districts were drawn with LGBTQ+ data |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Member of Sacramento Utility Services Board |

**Districted Election Systems**

Sacramento has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Sacramento Supervisors – 5 Supervisors, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.smud.org/en/Corporate/About-us/SMUDs-Territory-Map>
  + GIS Shapefile: <https://data-sacramentocounty.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/98801eb6ffc8457baefeafc51a92e995_0>
* City of Sacramento – 8 Council Members, at-large mayor, all four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/-/media/Corporate/Files/GIS/Maps/Council_All_A.pdf?la=en>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://data.cityofsacramento.org/datasets/28bd505c8e674a49ba5f782d0d806033_0>
  + Neighborhoods PDF Map:  
    <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/-/media/Corporate/Files/GIS/Maps/Neighborhoods_E.pdf?la=en>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://data.cityofsacramento.org/datasets/2c3e136e2e00435b9a875bb14d5aaf85_0>
* Sacramento City Unified School District – 7 districted Board Members, four year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.smud.org/en/Corporate/About-us/SMUDs-Territory-Map>
* Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) – 7 Board Members, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.smud.org/en/Corporate/About-us/SMUDs-Territory-Map>

**Redistricting Process**

The State of California has an open and transparent redistricting process for all cities and counties. The “Fair Maps Act” requires cities and counties to follow a process of having at least five public hearings, maps must be available to the public a week prior to any redistricting meeting, and agencies are required to do outreach to potential communities of interest.

The **City of Sacramento** has a commission-based redistricting process: <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Clerk/Services/Redistricting>

In 2020, an independent Redistricting Commission made up entirely of community members will be formed to set those boundaries in a process that is free from special interests, politics and political influence. The commission, approved by the voters of the City of Sacramento in 2016, will have 13 commissioners. Eight of the commissioners – one from each existing council district – will be selected from a pool of qualified applicants by the Sacramento Ethics Commission. Then those eight persons will then select the remaining five commissioners, plus two alternates. This commission has exclusive authority to redraw council-district boundaries, ensuring that the process is powered by the people of Sacramento.

The **County of Sacramento** does not appear to have any additional rules/policies on redistricting. In 2011 the County Registrar produced redistricting plans and made them available to the public. <https://pio.saccounty.net/Press%20Releases/sac_027342.pdf> They also held a number of workshops around the county. <https://pio.saccounty.net/Press%20Releases/sac_027863.pdf>

The **Sacramento Municipal Utility District** does not appear to have any specific redistricting process, however there is a budget item on redistricting mentioned in one of their slide presentations for a November 11th, 2020 meeting, but no specific information could be found. In 2011 SMUD passed a resolution defining the LGBTQ community as a Community of Interest in their redistricting. <http://www.outwordmagazine.com/inside-outword/glbt-news/871-four-freedoms-awards-recognize-our-heroes>

Information on the **Sacramento City Unified School District** redistricting process could not be found.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Steve Hansen – City Council District 4, 2012-2020  
*He’s the city’s first openly gay council member, the first to represent the newly redefined District 4, the first to live on the Midtown-downtown grid in three decades and the first ever to represent the entire central city as one. -* <https://www.newsreview.com/sacramento/content/new-kid-on-the-block/8878894/>

Rosanna Herber – Sacramento Municipal Utilities District, 2018 –   
*Herber is the first openly LGBTQ person elected to the SMUD Board. She has received several honors for her community service, including an LGBTQ Pride Award from the California State Legislature, a Community Advocate Award from Equality California and the “Freedom from Want” Award from Sacramento Stonewall.* - <https://www.smud.org/en/Corporate/About-us/Company-Information/Board-of-Directors/Rosanna-Herber>

Jay Hansen – Sacramento Unified School District Board Member, 2012-2018

*Jay Hansen became an appointed trustee of the Sacramento City Unified School District in 2012. Two years later, he campaigned for the position and won. -* <https://ballotpedia.org/Jay_Hansen>

Gary Miller – Roseville City School Board

*Gary Miller has served a combined 30 years on two local school boards. First in the Robla section of Sacramento and then for past 12 years he has served as a member of the Roseville City School Board, in the Sacramento area. -* <https://victoryfund.org/candidate/gary-miller/>

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The city of Sacramento has a number of different communities and neighborhoods. A map of the neighborhoods can be found here: <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/-/media/Corporate/Files/GIS/Maps/Neighborhoods_E.pdf?la=en>

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the Downtown/Midtown area. The “Visit Sacramento” page identifies Lavender Heights as a neighborhood “in midtown, just five minutes from downtown.” A community member describes it as:

We have a thriving Lavender Heights District, with a ton of LGBT owned businesses and shops and restaurants and bars. The restaurants and businesses in Lavender Heights are catering to the LGBT community in ways that they haven’t before, so it’s all very exciting and encouraging.

The Rainbow Chamber page on the “Sacramento LGBT Scene” begins with this description:

Sacramento is home to a thriving and active LGBT community that is both integrated into Sacramento civic life and centered in Midtown Sacramento’s Lavender Heights neighborhood, where LGBT citizens have helped create a bustling arts and gallery scene. LGBT people helped launch Sacramento’s Second Saturday Art Walk nearly a decade ago, an event that brings tens of thousands of visitors into Midtown Sacramento each month. – Full article attached.

Lavender Heights has Rainbow Crosswalks: <https://sacramento.cbslocal.com/2015/10/10/rainbow-crosswalks-unveiled-in-sacramentos-lavender-heights/>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the Sacramento area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

LGBTQ Center: There is a strong and thriving LGBTQ health center located in Midtown Sacramento <https://saccenter.org/donate?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIw6-8r-qZ7QIV0z2tBh1jFwVMEAAYASAAEgKOk_D_BwE>

Rainbow Chamber: <https://www.rainbowchamber.com/>

Gay Mens Choir: <https://sacgaymenschorus.org/>

Sacramento Pride and Rainbow Festival: <https://www.sacramentopride.org/>

Lavender Library: <https://www.lavenderlibrary.com/>

Capitol Squares (Gay Square Dancing club): <https://www.meetup.com/CapCitySquares/>

Gay Lesbian Tennis: <https://sgltennis.org/>

Rainbow Pac: <https://rainbowpac/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Sacramento.

LGBTQ Center Board: <https://saccenter.org/board>

LGBTQ Center Staff: <https://saccenter.org/staff>

Stonewall Democrats Boards: <https://sacstonewall.org/pac/committee/>

*Individuals*

Steve Hansen – First Out LGBTQ Councilmember in Sacramento

Carlos Marquez: Chair of the Board, Sacramento LGBTQ Center

Denny Mangers – Former California State Legislator, current member of the California Bar. <http://www.calbarjournal.com/September2010/TopHeadlines/th9.aspx>

Rosanna Herber In 2011, Herber chaired Sacramento’s LGBT Redistricting Coalition made up of the Stonewall Democrats, the Sacramento LGBT Center and the Rainbow Chamber. This coalition successfully lobbied the Sacramento City Council and County Board of Supervisors to redraw political boundaries to create gay-friendly districts, leading to the first openly gay man being elected to the Sacramento City Council.

Tre Borden, Sacramento LGBT Center Board Member

Mario Guerrero, Past President, Stonewall

Patrick Harbison – Owner of a local public affairs company, Sacramento LGBT Community Center Board Member

David Heitstuman - Executive Director Sacramento LGBT Community Center

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Sacramento has a number of redistricting experts and companies doing redistricting. Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

*Michael Wagaman* – redistricting business owner

*Nicolas Heidorn* ([nick@heidornpcs.com](mailto:nick@heidornpcs.com)) – redistricting staff for Common Cause

*Paul Mitchell* ([paul@redistrictingpartners.com](mailto:paul@redistrictingpartners.com)) – owner of Redistricting Partners

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

California’ Proposition 8 was authored by Sacramento political consultant Frank Schubert. <https://www.sfgate.com/politics/joegarofoli/article/Strategist-behind-Proposition-8-is-loved-feared-3687342.php>

Anti-Gay religious groups and protests, hate crimes: <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/intelligence-report/2007/latvian-anti-gay-movement-spills-over-us>

Anti-Gay local pastor: <https://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article84068102.html> and “if I go down in history as the hardest preacher against homos, praise the Lord” <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/06/28/us/pastors-praise-anti-gay-massacre-in-orlando-prompting-outrage.html>

Another, speaking of the Pulse Shooting, said “the tragedy is that more of them didn’t die.” <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2019-08-01/radical-baptist-pastor-lgbtq-hate>

**Appendix 1 - Rainbow Chamber “Sacramento’s LGBT Scene”**

<https://www.rainbowchamber.com/community-involvement/sacramentos-lgbt-scene/>

Sacramento is home to a thriving and active LGBT community that is both integrated into Sacramento civic life and centered in Midtown Sacramento’s Lavender Heights neighborhood, where LGBT citizens have helped create a bustling arts and gallery scene. LGBT people helped launch Sacramento’s Second Saturday Art Walk nearly a decade ago, an event that brings tens of thousands of visitors into Midtown Sacramento each month.

Sacramento’s city and county government leaders are strongly supportive of the city’s LGBT community. The nine-member Sacramento City Council includes one openly gay councilmember, as well as incoming Mayor-Elect Darrell Steinberg, a former California Senate Pro Tem whose support for Sacramento’s LGBT community dates back decades. Local law enforcement actively engages with LGBT leaders and LGBT-owned businesses to prevent anti-LGBT crime and to ensure safety at LGBT events.

In 2015, the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce joined with gay City Councilmember Steve Hansen, along with community organizations and activists, to launch a campaign officially designating Lavender Heights as the city’s historic LGBT neighborhood. The Chamber served as the fiscal agent for a fundraising drive that culminated in October 2015 with the installation of the Rainbow Crosswalks at the high-traffic intersection of 20th and K streets, the epicenter of Sacramento’s bustling gay scene. The effort enjoyed strong support from area merchants and residents. The coalition currently is developing a fundraising campaign for installation of Lavender Heights street sign toppers.

The area features six gay clubs, ranging in style from Faces, a video night club with three dance floors and a pool; to Mango’s Burgertown, where business people and professionals can gather for dinner and cocktails on a sprawling outdoor patio surrounded by art galleries and shops; to The Depot, a cozy video bar; to The Bolt leather bar. On first Thursdays, Mango’s is the site of Drag Queen Bingo, a rollicking event operated by the Chamber that raises money for a different non-profit beneficiary each month and sells out to standing room only. Crocker Art Museum hosts LGBT-themed events throughout the year in conjunction with local LGBT organizations.

The Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center, located in the heart of Lavender Heights, provides youth programming and other social services and is the producer of Sacramento Pride, California’s Capital Pride, which each June brings some 8,000 visitors from all over the state to Sacramento’s scenic Capital Mall. In addition to Sacramento Pride, Sacramento also hosts the annual Rainbow Festival each Labor Day weekend, a weekend-long mix of street fair, live performances and parties centered around the Rainbow Crosswalks neighborhood.

In addition to the Chamber, Sacramento is home to the numerous LGBT organizations, including Lavender Library, Sacramento International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, Lambda Players theatrical company, the Capital Crossroads Gay Rodeo Association, the Gender Health Center, Camellia Classic LGBT softball tournament, the Sacramento LGBT Tennis Association, Sacramento Gay Men’s Chorus, Sacramento Women’s Chorus, LGBT attorneys organization Lambda Legal, the Capital Squares square dance group and numerous other LGBT organizations. Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce is active in supporting many of the organizations and events of LGBT Sacramento and has contributed nearly $50,000 to local non-profit organizations and to youth scholarships over the past four years.

The Stonewall Democratic Club is the region’s largest political club and supports LGBT and allied candidates from throughout Northern California. The Chamber and its non-partisan political action committee, RainbowPAC, also participates in numerous events with California’s LGBT Legislative Caucus as well as candidate meet-and-greets.

Among Sacramento’s active members and partners are the Sacramento Convention & Visitors Bureau, Sacramento Kings, California Musical Theatre/Broadway Sacramento, Sacramento Regional Transit, University of California Davis, Sac State, Sacramento Metropolitan Utility District, Wells Fargo, Outword Magazine, Sacramento Business Journal, Western Health Advantage and the local Asian-Pacific Islander, Black and Hispanic Chambers of Commerce.

The City of Sacramento in 2016 awarded a one-year economic development grant to a partnership consisting of Rainbow Chamber, Sacramento Black Chamber and Sacramento Hispanic Chamber to fund business building events and outreach.

Rainbow Chamber of Commerce will celebrate its 15th anniversary at its annual dinner and Business Leader of the Year Awards in September 2017.

**Appendix 2 – LGBTQ Redistricting Media**

City of Sacramento Unanimously Recognizes LGBT Community as a Community of Interest for Redistricting - <http://www.outwordmagazine.com/inside-outword/glbt-news/630-sacramento-lgbt-community-recognized-as-a-community-of-interest-for-redistricting>

Citing the unique issues facing Sacramento’s lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, Sacramento’s City Council unanimously supported a resolution that was being proposed by Stonewall as well as the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber and the Sacramento Gay and Lesbian Center to recognize Sacramento’s LGBT community as a community of interest for redistricting.

“Sacramento has consistently led on advocating for Sacramento’s LGBT community,” said Daniel Roth, President of the Stonewall Democrats of Greater Sacramento. “This resolution officially brings Sacramento’s LGBT community out of the closet and guarantees that we will be counted and included as the City Council draws lines for council districts that will impact the lives of LGBT Sacramentans.”

Stonewall worked with Equality California to present comprehensive data from the US Census as well as election outcomes from Proposition 8 to point out where LGBT people live, and the council used these data points when drawing the lines for the City of Sacramento. Stonewall advocated that the City Council united the midtown and downtown neighborhoods, and then unite those neighborhoods with another LGBT friendly neighborhood.

Stonewall also worked with the Sacramento Redistricting Advisory Committee to ensure that the committee recommended that the council recognize the LGBT community, and the council followed the committee’s recommendation.

The City Council will adopt the final redistricting maps at their September 6th Council Meeting.

“We are here; We’re queer, and we are grateful that our city is proud of our contributions and is aware of our unique needs that we can only get through representation,” Roth concluded.

Sacramento's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Join the City Redistricting Process - <http://archive2.capradio.org/articles/2011/03/17/sacramento%27s-lesbian,-gay,-bisexual,-and-transgender-community-join-the-city-redistricting-process>

Rosanna Herber is the chair of the newly formed lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender redistricting committee. She says Sacramento's L-G-B-T community is mostly concentrated in downtown and midtown, an area currently split into three districts.

"We want to unite the L-G-B-T voice and have one district represent the downtown and the midtown area," Herber said.

Herber says a split vote is weak. Like many other groups she wants the city's redistricting committee to recognize it as a "community of interest" when it draws new districts this fall.

Scot Mende is with the city.

"To the extent you can draw a community of interest in one district, it gives that community of interest greater influence over selection over candidates," Mende said.

Herber says the first step to getting an L-G-B-T city councilmember is consolidating the community's vote into one district.

LGBT community weighs in on redistricting - <https://sacramentopress.com/2011/07/20/lgbt-community-weighs-in-on-redistricting/>

When it comes to redistricting, the LGBT community has a lot to say about being recognized as a legitimate community of interest and working toward getting the central city united into one council district.

“Unless you see yourself represented, it’s hard to see yourself in the world,” said Steve Hansen, a community activist and a member of the former Citizens Advisory Committee on Redistricting.

Hansen and Rosanna Herber, chairperson of the LGBT Redistricting Committee, said members of the LGBT community worked tirelessly over the last several months to be recognized as a community of interest and be given a stake in the process. Their goal has been to finally see the central city united.

“We are a very diverse city,” Hansen said, “and our strength comes from that diversity.”

The LGBT Redistricting Committee was made up of representatives of the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center, the Rainbow Chamber of Commerce, the Stonewall Democratic Club and other LGBT community leaders.

Herber said the group attended advisory committee meetings and testified before the committee at every opportunity.

“The common theme (of our testimony) was that a majority of our community live in the urban core and we don’t want to have it split any longer,” Herber said.

There are approximately 31,000 people in the grid which is shared by three council districts, Hansen said, and “(the people in the grid) have have a lot more in common with each other than the people in Natomas (who share a district) have with them.”

The standard of “one person, one vote” includes the notion of not diluting the electoral power of groups of people that have historically been subject to discrimination. By splitting the central city, Hansen said, that’s exactly what happens.

“The neighborhoods in the central city have been sliced and diced so much,” Hansen said. “The people there have no real electoral power.”

People in the grid share a common geography, a common cultural landscape – and common issues, Hansen said. People in other areas ignore those issues because they aren’t as affected by them.

Homelessness is one issue that Hansen said has been allowed to persist in the grid for so long because the majority of voters in each of the three districts that contain part of the core live outside that central area.

“Ultimately, none of the people who vote have any skin in the game,” Hansen said. “As long as the problem stays out of North Natomas, East Sacramento, Land Park or Curtis Park, people are perfectly fine with that.”

Hansen said that, although he feels the elected representatives do try, “ultimately their concerns are going to be concerns from where the majority of the (voters) are.”

“It’s political economy,” Hansen said.

From the LGBT point of view, it is important to have the ability to elect the candidate of their choice, Herber said.

Historically, there has never been an openly LGBT person elected to the City Council and Herber said, if there is ever going to be one, “we have to have our support united.”

“It’s one thing to have someone relay your concerns, but it’s better when they share your concerns,” Hansen said.

The advisory committee recommended four maps to City Council for redrawing district lines. Three of the maps unite the central city into one district.

“In the past, it doesn’t seem anyone was held responsible for redistricting, so we got lines that weren’t necessarily fair, they reflected the whims of the council,” Hansen said.

During the process, Hansen said his role on the advisory committee was as “a person who cares about the city,” and not as a representative of any community or organization.

“I was primarily concerned about the legitimacy of the process,” Hansen said. “I challenged the committee to remember that the public is watching us and they would hold us accountable.”

Hansen said that, after hearing all the public testimony, the advisory committee understood that there wasn’t a good justification for the central city to be broken up.

“We had to keep asking, ‘What’s best for the city? How do we do right by our communities?’ “ Hansen said.

Sara Freid, Interim Executive Director for the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center, said the response from the advisory committee to their testimony throughout the redistricting process was “positive and encouraging.”

“I feel like they listened to us,” she added. “It’s nice to be heard as a community.”

The LGBT Redistricting Committee will go to City Council Tuesday and participate in the public discussion on redistricting again, Herber said.

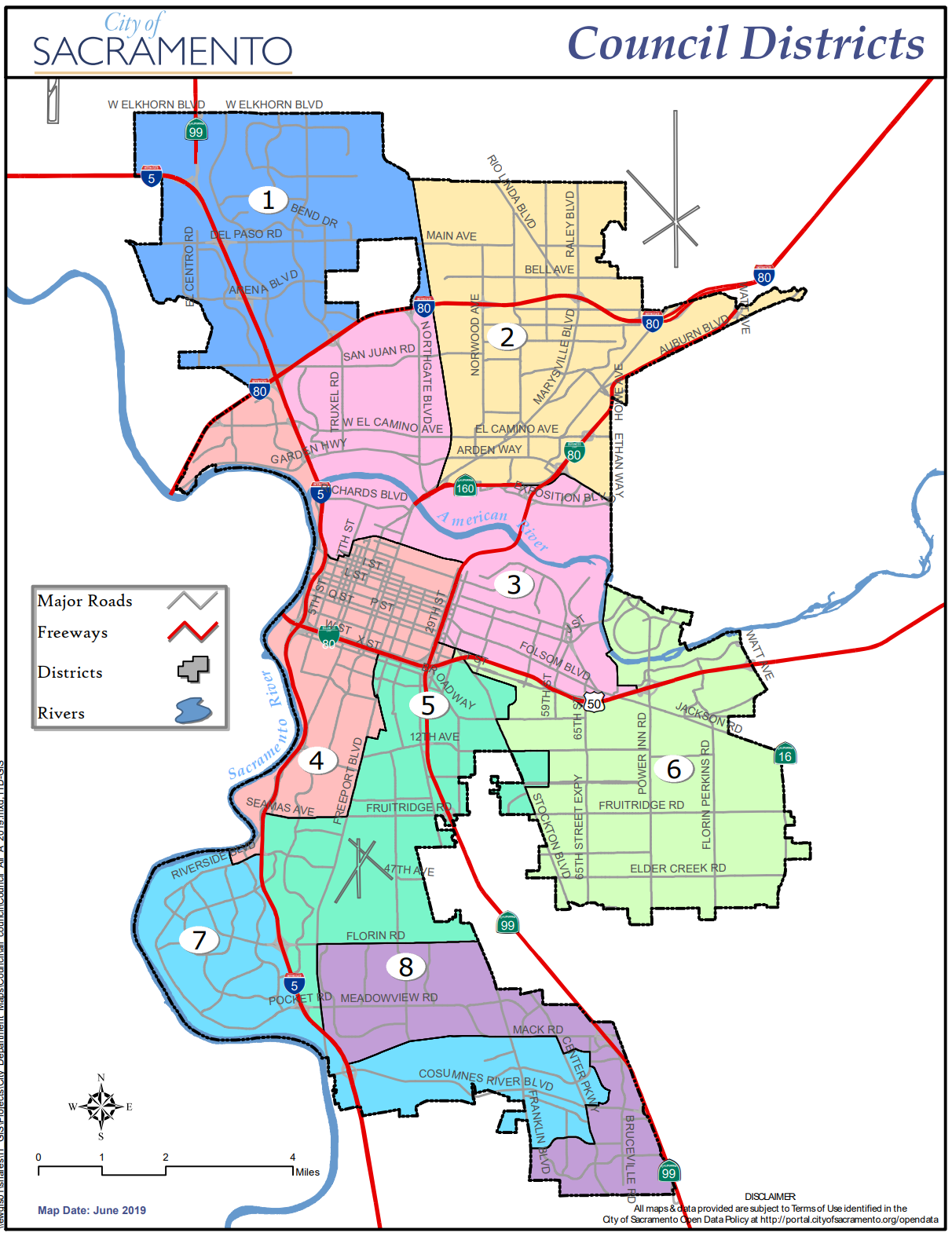
“We are going to ask the council to do what the advisory committee did,” Herber said. “Respect the LGBT community as a community of interest and see where our community lives, and keep the central core together.”

Hansen agreed. “It’s the fair and just thing to do to make sure that the LGBT community – as a legitimate community of interest – is not just recognized by the process, but respected by it,” Hansen said.

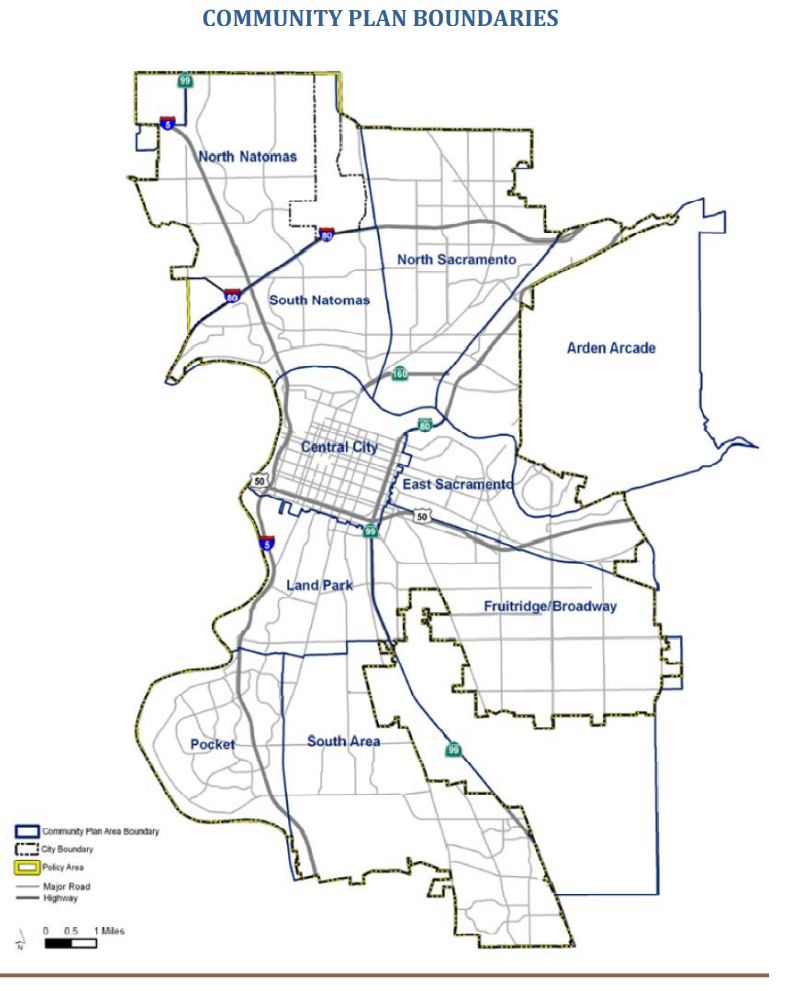
The City Council has until about Aug. 26 to decide where the new district lines will be drawn.

**Appendix 3 – Maps**

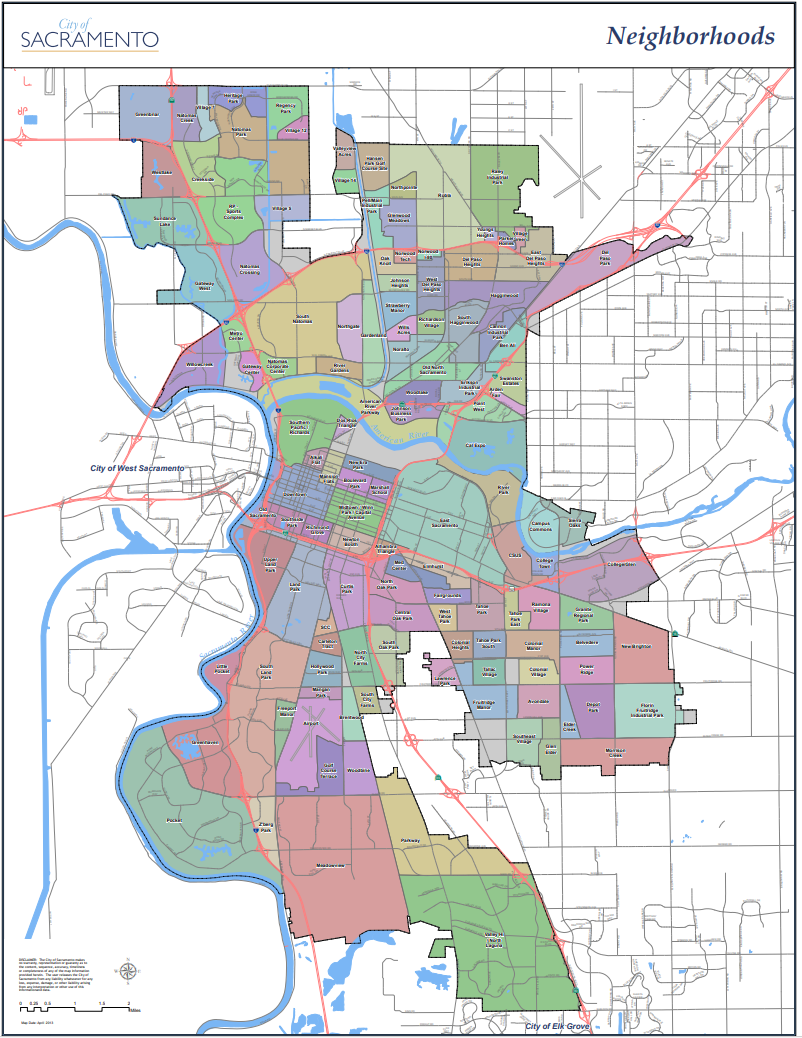
**City of Sacramento – Council Districts**



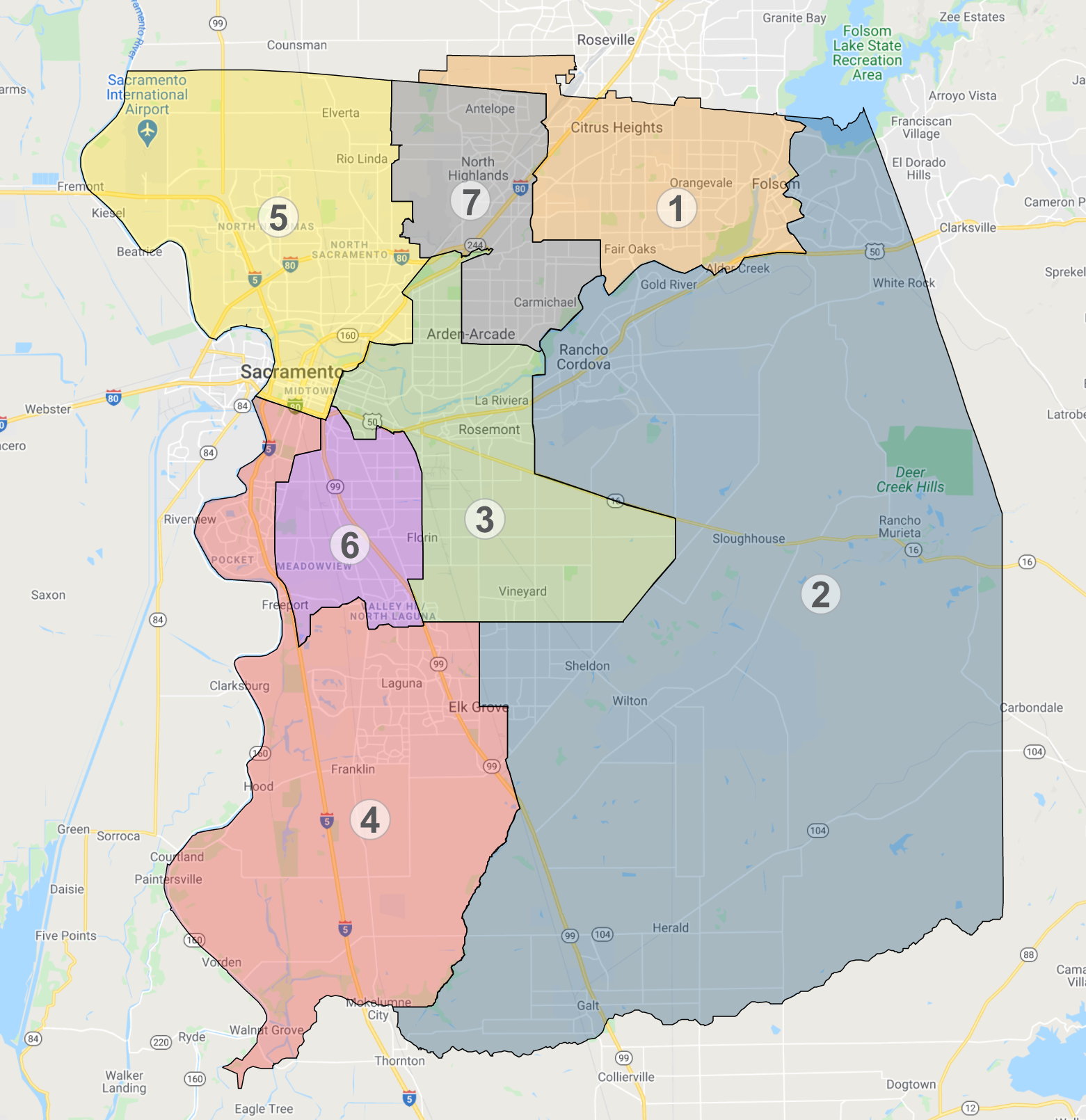
**City of Sacramento Community Plan Boundaries**



**City of Sacramento Neighborhoods**



SMUD Board



# Salt Lake City, UT 5/6

Salt Lake City, UT is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** are the neighborhoods of Marmalade and The Avenues |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Salt Lake, City of Salt Lake, and Salt Lake City School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Salt Lake and City of Salt Lake |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – Strong political culture against LGBTQ+ protections |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Two members of the SLC Council and a member of the Utah Legislature representing Salt Lake City |

**Districted Election Systems**

Salt Lake City has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Salt Lake Commission – 4 commissioners, at-large Mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://slco.org/globalassets/1-site-files/clerk/elections/maps/candidate_maps/slcocouncil_all.pdf>
  + GIS Shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Salt%20Lake%20City/Salt%20Lake%20County%20Council%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
* City of Salt Lake – 7 Council Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <http://www.slcdocs.com/comcoun/pdfs/map11x17.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Salt%20Lake%20City/SLC%20Council%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods PDF Map:  
    <http://www.slcdocs.com/comcoun/pdfs/map11x17.pdf>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Salt%20Lake%20City/SLC%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Salt Lake City School Board – 7 Board Members, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://slco.org/globalassets/1-site-files/clerk/elections/maps/school_districts/saltlakeschool_all.pdf>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Utah**

**County of Salt Lake**

* **Redistricting commission**
  + 8 members – 1 is the county clerk, 7 are appointed by council members
    - No more than 3 members can be from same party
    - Members must be a registered voter and may not be a political office holder, lobbyist, or party official
  + Commission must provide 1-3 plans to the Council for consideration, which are ranked
  + Principles
    - No line changes if consistent with state law
    - If possible, district lines must respect an incumbent’s residence
    - All council districts must have at least two jurisdictions within

**City of Salt Lake**

The legislative districts of the City are as provided on the map duly approved by the Council. The districts shall be enlarged by subsequent contiguous City annexations and shall be reapportioned following each Federal decennial census to maintain substantially equal populations. The Council shall by resolution or ordinance adopt such district boundary modifications and may, also, by resolution or ordinance adopt maps and/or metes and bounds descriptions of the districts. A current copy of all such maps, resolutions and ordinances shall be on file with the City Recorder and available for public inspection.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Jackie Biskupski – Salt Lake City Mayor, 2016-2020  
*Salt Lake City’s first openly gay mayor and only second female Mayor. First openly gay member of the Utah Legislature (1999-2011). Vocal opponent of Utah’s ban on same-sex adoption and vocal supporter of gender equality in Utah. Founded “Real Women Run Initiative” which encourages female participation in civic leadership. -* <https://www.deseret.com/utah/2020/1/1/21036933/salt-lake-city-mayor-jackie-biskupski-leaves-office-trailblazer-who-faced-tough-choices-lesbian>

Jim Dabakis – Member of UT State Senate District 2, 2012-2019   
*Co-founder of Equality Utah and Utah Pride Center. First openly gay Party Leader in Utah (Democratic, 2011). Appointed Senator in 2012 and unsuccessfully ran for Mayor in 2019.* - <https://www.deseret.com/2012/12/1/20510592/jim-dabakis-elected-to-mcadams-utah-senate-seat>

Derek Kitchen – Member of UT State Senate District 2, 2019-  
*Sued Utah Ban on same-sex marriage in 2013 and won at 10th Federal Court of Appeals. Elected to SLC’s Council District 4 in 2016. Vocal about fighting climate change and enacting hate crimes statutes.* <https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/0-1-percent-gay-ex-mormon-derek-kitchen-looks-shake-n911186>

Chris Wharton – SLC Council District 3, 2018-  
*Elected to SLC Council District 3 in 2018. Served on Human Rights Commission which established SLC non-discrimination ordinances. Vice Chairman of Utah Pride Center Board and member of SLC Chamber of Commerce Board. Lawyer.* - <https://www.qsaltlake.com/news/2020/01/24/chris-wharton-elected-as-salt-lake-city-council-chair/>

Amy Fowler – SLC Council District 7, 2018-  
*Elected to SLC Council District 3 in 2018. Co-founder of LGBT and Allied Lawyers of Utah. Criminal defense lawyer.* [*https://www.slc.gov/district7/council-member-bio/*](https://www.slc.gov/district7/council-member-bio/)

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the Marmalade area.

Salt Lake Tribune observes:

*The Marmalade district is still a place many LGBTQ individuals call home. They affectionately dub it the “gayborhood” and proudly fly rainbow flags from nearby balconies and windows.*

*Once a neglected area of Salt Lake City, it is now experiencing a renaissance with a new library, scores of new apartments and condominiums under construction and many older homes being renovated.*

<https://www.sltrib.com/news/2018/06/08/new-biker-bar-geared-toward-cyclists-and-any-other-thirsty-patrons-glides-into-salt-lake-citys-marmalade-neighborhood-where-club-jam-used-to-be/>

Map of LGBTQ+ friendly areas of Salt Lake City: <https://i.imgur.com/yi9L4n8.jpg>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the Salt Lake City area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Pride Center: There is a strong and thriving LGBTQ health center located in Ball Park Neighborhood (also hosts Pride Parade) <https://utahpridecenter.org/>

Utah Bears (Coffee meetup): <http://utahbears.com/>

Salt Lake Men’s Choir: <http://saltlakemenschoir.org/>

Utah LGBT Chamber of Commerce: <https://www.utahlgbtqchamber.org/>

Affirmation (LGBTQ+ Mormons): <https://affirmation.org/>

LGBTQ+ Therapists of Utah: <http://lgbtqtherapists.com/>

Goodtime Bowling League: <https://www.facebook.com/Salt-Lake-Goodtime-Bowling-League-137334079666879/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in Salt Lake City.

Equality Utah: <https://www.equalityutah.org/staff>

Utah Pride Center Board: <https://utahpridecenter.org/board-of-directors>

Utah Pride Center Staff: <https://utahpridecenter.org/staff-directory>

Utah Stonewall Democrats: <https://www.facebook.com/utahstonewalldems/>

PFLAG SLC: <http://pflag-saltlakecity.org/>

LGBT Lawyers and Allies of Utah: <http://www.lgbtutahlawyers.com/>

Utah Log Cabin Republicans: <http://logcabin.org/chapter/utah/>

*Individuals*

Jackie Biskupski- First and only out LGBT Mayor of SLC

Derek Kitchen – Only current out LGBT State elected in Utah

Chris Wharton– Out LGBT councilman repping Marmalade District

Amy Fowler- Out LGBT Councilwoman repping Sugar House District

Troy Williams- Executive Director of Equality Utah

Chris Jensen- Board Chair of Utah Pride Center

Brandon Mark- Board President of LGBT Lawyers and Allies of Utah

Ryan Curtis- Stonewall Democrats Board Member

Frederick Luchycky- President of Utah Log Cabin Republicans

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Jeanine Kuhn-Coker ([theleague@lwvsl.org](mailto:theleague@lwvsl.org)) – President of Salt Lake County LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

Amendment 3 was passed in 2004 which defined marriage between a man and a woman.

<https://www.deseret.com/2013/3/26/20516877/utah-among-several-states-with-marriage-laws-under-legal-challenge>

# San Antonio, TX 5/6

San Antonio, TX is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Tobin Hill |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Bexar, City of San Antonio, and San Antonio ISD Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Bexar and City of San Antonio |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – SA ISD Trustee faced homophobic attacks in 2020 cycle |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Member of the San Antonio ISD Board |

**Districted Election Systems**

San Antonio has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Bexar Commission – 4 commissioners, at-large judge, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.sanantonio.gov/Portals/0/files/GIS/PoliticalMaps/BCC_8.5x11.pdf>
  + GIS Shapefile: <https://gis-bexar.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/bexar-county-commissioners-precincts>
* County of Bexar Constables – 4 Constables, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.bexar.org/1717/Voter-Precincts>
  + GIS Shapefile: <https://gis-bexar.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/821a295b50dd4e4985d4ff6986638a6e_1>
* City of San Antonio – 10 Council Members, at-large mayor, all two-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.sanantonio.gov/Portals/0/Files/GIS/PoliticalMaps/CCD_8.5x11.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://data.sanantonio.gov/dataset/council-districts1>
  + Neighborhoods PDF Map:  
    <https://www.sanantonio.gov/Portals/0/files/GIS/Maps/NPP_36x36.pdf>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://data.sanantonio.gov/dataset/neighborhood-community-and-perimeter-plans1>
* San Antonio Independent School District – 7 Board Members, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.saisd.net/upload/template/0088/MiniMap2019-2020.pdf>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of Texas**

**County of Bexar**

**City of San Antonio**

Not a lot of information about the process online, but City Council seems to have total discretion over boundaries.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Omar Leos – Northeast ISD Trustee, 2020-  
*Openly gay school board trustee. -* <https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/anti-lgbtq-attack-ads-ramp-ahead-election-day-n1245774>

Gina Ortiz Jones – 23rd Congressional District Candidate, 2018 – 2020  
*Two-time candidate for Texas’s 23rd Congressional District (San Antonio Area). Would have become first ever openly gay woman to be elected in Texas, however, was defeated Nov 2020.* - <https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/called-protect-air-force-veteran-gina-ortiz-jones-sets-sights-n1242642>

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the Tobin Hill area.

According to the 5-year ACS:

*Census tract 1902 ranked 11th in the sheer number of gay male households and 16th in terms of proportion. Part of Tobin Hill, the tract covers roughly the area from Mulberry Avenue down to Dewey Place, between San Pedro Avenue and the San Antonio River.*

[*https://outinsa.com/tracking-queer-couples-and-gentrification/*](https://outinsa.com/tracking-queer-couples-and-gentrification/)

Gay Real Estate observes:

*If you’re looking for the city’s “gayborhood”, however, then****Tobin Hill****is the neighborhood you’re looking for. If you want a walkable, LGBTQ-friendly neighborhood close to downtown nightlife with an eclectic mix of shops and restaurants amidst beautiful green spaces, Tobin Hill is your place. Gay-friendly pubs and clubs line North Main Avenue, and there is always plenty to see and do, with a twice-weekly farmers’ market, concerts in the local outdoor amphitheater, and the famed San Antonio River Walk only a short distance away.*

<https://www.gayrealestate.com/news/usa/texas/san-antonio/san-antonio-gay-city-guide.html>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Pride Center: There is a strong and thriving LGBTQ health center located in Tobin Hill <https://pridecentersa.org/>

Live Oak Singers (LGBTQ Choir): <https://sites.google.com/liveoaksingers.org/los/home?authuser=0>

Fiesta Youth: <http://www.fiesta-youth.org/>

San Antonio Pride Parade: <http://www.pridesanantonio.org/pride-parade.html>

Human Rights Campaign of SA: <https://www.facebook.com/HRCSanAntonio/>

San Antonio Chamber of Commerce: <https://www.salgbtchamber.org/>

SA Gender Association: <https://www.sagender.net/>

Out in SA (LGBT Magazine): <https://outinsa.com/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in San Antonio.

Pride Center Board: <https://pridecentersa.org/board/>

Pride Center Staff: <https://pridecentersa.org/staff-interns/>

Stonewall Democrats SA: <https://www.stonewallsa.org/>

*Individuals*

Omar Leos – Only current out LGBT elected in San Antonio

Robert Salcido – Chair of San Antonio’s Pride Center Board

Cynthia Benton & Bryan Gerard: Co-Chairs of Stonewall Democrats SA

Gina Ortiz Jones – Two-time openly gay Congressional Candidate

Melissa Ochoa- President of SA LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Phillip Barcena- President of SA Pride Parade

Trey Martinez Fischer- TX House member (reps SA); LGBT ally

Roland Gutierrez- TX Senate Member (reps SA); LGBT ally

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap include:

Anthony Gutierrez ([agutierrez@commoncause.org](mailto:agutierrez@commoncause.org)) – Common Cause TX Executive Director

Madhu Sridhar ([e-mail](https://lwvsa.org/contact-form/)) – President of San Antonio LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

Northeast ISD Trustee Candidate faced homophobic attacks in Nov 2020 elections - <https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/anti-lgbtq-attack-ads-ramp-ahead-election-day-n1245774>.

# San Diego, CA 6/6

San Diego, CA is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 6 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Hillcrest |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of San Diego, City of San Diego, and San Diego USD Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of San Diego and City of San Diego have very robust independent citizen redistricting commissions |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – City Council Districts were drawn LGBTQ+ data |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Mayor, members of CA Legislature, member of the San Diego City Council, and Member of the San Diego USD Board |

**Districted Election Systems**

San Diego has a number of agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of San Diego – 5 districted Supervisors, four-year terms
  + Current map: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/live_well_san_diego/indicators/BOS_Districts_Dashboard.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/San%20Diego/SD%20Supervisor%20Districts.ZIP?role=personal>
* City of San Diego – 9 districted Council Members, at-large mayor, four-year terms.
  + Current Map: <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/council_districts_2018.pdf>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/San%20Diego/SD%20Council%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods Map:  
    <https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/profiles>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/San%20Diego/San%20Diego%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* San Diego Unified School Board – 5 districted elected members, four-year terms
  + Current map: <https://sandiegounified.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_27732394/File/About/Leadership/Board%20of%20Education/Overview/board-districts-map.pdf>

**Redistricting Process**

**State of California**

* **Fair Maps Act**

Line drawing requirements:

1. Population equality
2. Geographically Contiguous
3. Respect communities of interest – don’t split
4. Must have public hearings

Only one redistricting a decade – following the completion of the US Census.

**County of San Diego**

* **San Diego County Redistricting Commission -** Truly independent commission comprised of 14 residents of San Diego County.

**City of San Diego**

* **City of San Diego Redistricting Commission** – Truly independent commission compromised of 9 members that are appointed by three retired San Diego Superior Court Judges.

More info: <https://docs.sandiego.gov/citycharter/Article%20II.pdf#redistricting>

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Todd Gloria – San Diego Mayor, 2021-

*Elected first openly gay mayor and first person of color elected Mayor of San Diego in 2020. Elected in 2016 to the CA Assembly representing San Diego’s 78th Assembly District. Elected in 2008 as first openly gay person of color on the San Diego City Council – representing Hillcrest’s 3rd Council District. Served as chairman of the San Diego LGBT Community Center.*

*Staunch advocate for smart growth and environmental sustainability.*

Toni Atkins – CA Senate President pro tempore, 2018-

*First woman and first LGBT person to lead the CA Senate. Elected in 2016 to represent San Diego’s 39th Senate District. First openly gay woman to become Speaker of the CA Assembly. Elected in 2010 to represent San Diego’s 76th Assembly District. Elected to Hillcrest’s 3rd Council District in 2000.*

Chris Ward – Member of CA Assembly, 2020-

*Elected to represent San Diego’s 78th Assembly District in 2020. Elected to Hillcrest’s 3rd Council District in 2016. Started career as environmental planner.*

Terra Lawson-Remer – San Diego County Supervisor, 2020-

*First openly LGBT member of the San Diego Board of Supervisors. Strong advocate for affordable housing and smart growth.*

Stephen Whitburn – Member of San Diego City Council, 2020-

*Elected to represent Hillcrest’s 3rd Council District in 2020. Former executive director of San Diego Pride.*

Kevin Beiser – Member of San Diego Unified School Board, 2010-

*San Diego’s first openly gay elected official, representing Area B.*

Georgette Gomez – President of San Diego City Council, 2018-2020

*First openly gay Latina elected President of the San Diego Council. Elected to represent Mid City’s 9th Council District in 2016. Staunch advocate for environmental sustainability.*

Christine Kehoe – Member of CA Senate, 2004-2012

*Elected to the CA Senate in 2004, representing San Diego’s 39th Senate District. Founding chairman of the CA Legislative LGBT Caucus. Elected to the CA Assembly in 2000, representing San Diego’s 76th Assembly District. First ever openly LGBT Elected official in San Diego County – elected to represent Hillcrest’s 3rd Council District. Started career in 1980s as HIV/AIDS education activist.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The community most defined as LGBTQ is the Hillcrest neighborhood.

Visit San Diego observes:

*One of the top LGBTQ+ destinations in the country, San Diego welcomes people of all stripes and types with open arms…Hillcrest is the heart of the action, where there is always something fun to see and do. From the CityFest Street Fair to Hillcrest Mardi Gras to the grandest party of them all—Pride—Hillcrest hums with activity all year.* <https://www.sandiego.org/plan/lgbtq.aspx>

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the San Antonio area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

San Diego LGBT Center: <https://thecentersd.org/>

San Diego Equality Business Association: <https://www.sdeba.org/>

San Diego Gay Men’s Chorus: <https://www.sdgmc.org/>

San Diego Pride: <https://sdpride.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

There are a number of organizations and individuals leading the LGBTQ community in San Diego.

San Diego LGBT Center: <https://thecentersd.org/board-of-directors/>

*Individuals*

Lisa Sanders – Co-Chair of San Diego LGBT Center

Jeremy Wilson – President of San Diego Equality Business Association

Jeff Heine- Executive Director of San Diego’s Gay Men’s Chorus

Susan Hartman- Co-Chair of San Diego Pride Board

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Nicolas Heidorn ([nick@heidornpcs.com](mailto:nick@heidornpcs.com)) – redistricting staff for Common Cause

Paul Mitchell ([paul@redistrictingpartners.com](mailto:paul@redistrictingpartners.com)) -- owner of Redistricting Partners

Lori Thiel ([president@lwvsandiego.org](mailto:president@lwvsandiego.org)) – President of San Diego LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# San Francisco, CA 5/6

San Francisco, CA is a very strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of The Castro |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of San Francisco and San Francisco USD Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of San Francisco |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – City Council Districts were drawn with LGBTQ+ data |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – County Treasurer, Member of CA Legislature, County Supervisor, SF USD Trustee, and City College Trustee |

**Districted Election Systems**

* County of San Francisco – 11 districted seats, at-large mayor, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://voterguide.sfelections.org/sites/default/files/images/district_map.jpg>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/San%20Francisco/SF%20Supervisor%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood map: <https://sfelections.sfgov.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Maps/NeighborhoodPctMap2019.pdf>
  + Neighborhood shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/San%20Francisco/SF%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* San Francisco Unified School Board – 7 at-large elected members, four-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

**State of California**

The State of California has an open and transparent redistricting process for all cities and counties. The “Fair Maps Act” requires cities and counties to follow a process of having at least five public hearings, maps must be available to the public a week prior to any redistricting meeting, and agencies are required to do outreach to potential communities of interest.

**San Francisco City/County**

* The City/County uses a Redistricting Task Force to build, review and propose maps.
  + 9 members of the task force with 3 appointed by the Mayor, 3 appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and 3 appointed by the Elections Commission
  + Respecting communities of interest is required by law in the San Francisco Charter
  + Several public hearings are held

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

José Cisneros – City/County Treasurer, 2004-

*Appointed Treasurer by Mayor Newsom in 2004 and elected in 2005.*

Rafael Mandelman – Member of SF Board of Supervisors, 2018-

*Elected in 2018 to represent San Francisco’s 8th Supervisor District in The Castro. Strong advocate for LGBTQ data collection efforts in San Francisco.*

Scott Wiener – State Senator, 2016-

*Elected in 2016 to represent San Francisco’s 11th Senate District. Outspoken advocate for fighting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as for affordable housing. Elected to represent The Castro on San Francisco’s Board of Supervisors (8th District).*

Mark Sanchez – SF School Board Member, 2001-2009; 2016-

*Second openly gay member of the SF School Board, elected in 2000.*

Tom Temprano – City College Trustee, 2016-

*Elected as a Community College Board Member in 2016. Former Board Members of SF LGBT Center.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

San Francisco’s most LGBTQ-friendly neighborhood in the City is the Castro District.

Found SF Observes:

*Homosexuals across America consider San Francisco a "Gay Mecca" thanks to the rise of the distinctive gay community, primarily in the Castro District, centered at the intersection of Castro and 18th Streets, a block from upper Market Street. Some estimate that there are as many as 100,000 gay men and lesbians in San Francisco, out of a total population of approximately 750,000.* [*https://www.foundsf.org/index.php?title=The\_Castro:\_The\_Rise\_of\_a\_Gay\_Community*](https://www.foundsf.org/index.php?title=The_Castro:_The_Rise_of_a_Gay_Community)

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

Bay Area Reporter - <https://www.ebar.com/>

SF LGBT Center - <https://www.sfcenter.org/>

Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club - <http://www.alicebtoklas.org/>

Sha’ar Zahav – LGBT Synagogue - <https://shaarzahav.org/>

Harvey Milk Dem Club - <http://www.milkclub.org/>

SF Pride - <https://sfpride.org/>

SF Gay Men’s Chorus: [www.sfgmc.com](https://www.sfgmc.org/welcome/?gclid=CjwKCAiAjeSABhAPEiwAqfxURa3cz2FU6jM-Nxab_txQKIuT-ekzmvIhftJpaQ5r331sZEZNO2CD6RoCDqoQAvD_BwE)

**LTBTQ Leadership**

SF LGBT Center: <https://www.sfcenter.org/the-center/team/>

*Individuals:*

Rebecca Rolfe – Executive Director of SF LGBT Center

David Fujimoto – Co-Chair of Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club

Carolyn Wysinger – President of San Francisco Pride

Glenn DeSandre – Chair of SF Gay Men’s Chorus

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Nicolas Heidorn ([nick@heidornpcs.com](mailto:nick@heidornpcs.com)) – redistricting staff for Common Cause

Paul Mitchell ([paul@redistrictingpartners.com](mailto:paul@redistrictingpartners.com)) – owner of Redistricting Partners

Allison Goh ([lwvsf@lwvsf.org](mailto:lwvsf@lwvsf.org)) – President of San Francisco LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# San Jose, CA 4/6

San Jose, CA is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood around Post Street in Downtown |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Santa Clara and City of San Jose |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Santa Clara and City of San Jose has very robust independent citizens redistricting commission |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Members of the CA Legislature representing San Jose |

**Districted Election Systems**

* County of Santa Clara – 5 districted seats, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/scc/PublishingImages/scc_all_districts_map.jpg>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/San%20Jose/Santa%20Clara%20Supervisorial%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
* City of San Jose – 10 Districted Seats and 1 At-Large Mayor, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument?id=23661>
  + District Shapefile: [https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/San%20Jose/SJ%20Council%20District%20Map.zip?role=](https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/San%20Jose/SJ%20Council%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal)
* Santa Clara School Board – 7 at-large members, four-year terms
  + District shapefile: [https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/](https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/San%20Jose/Santa%20Clara%20Board%20of%20Education.zip?role=personal)

**Redistricting Process**

**State of California**

The State of California has an open and transparent redistricting process for all cities and counties. The “Fair Maps Act” requires cities and counties to follow a process of having at least five public hearings, maps must be available to the public a week prior to any redistricting meeting, and agencies are required to do outreach to potential communities of interest.

**City of San Jose**

The City will follow a process using a Redistricting Commission. Under the plan approved Oct. 28, all San Jose residents can apply to the redistricting commission through a public process where residents can comment on each application. No private meetings about redistricting between commissioners and individuals will be allowed. Mayor Sam Liccardo also proposed eliminating conflicts of interest — such as prohibiting the appointment of an elected official’s family members or employees — and ensuring diversity on the commission.

Commissioners will be appointed in January.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Alex Lee – Member of CA Assembly, 2020-

*CA Legislature’s first openly bisexual member. Elected to represent San Jose’s 25th Assembly District in 2020.*

Evan Low – Member of CA Assembly, 2014-

*Elected to represent San Jose’s 28th Assembly District in 2014. Became the youngest, openly gay, Asian-American Mayor in America in 2009 as Mayor of Campbell.*

John Laird – CA State Senate, 2012-

*Elected to represent San Jose’s 17th Senate District in 2020. Elected in Santa Cruz in 1983 as one of America’s first openly gay Mayors. Executive Director of Santa Cruz AIDS Project from 1991 to 1994.*

Anthony Becker – Santa Clara Councilmember, 2020-

*Second-ever LGBTQ person elected in 2020 to represent Santa Clara’s 6th Council District.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

St. Leo’s – Parts of Shasta Hanchett, Downtown and Greater Rose Garnder neighborhoods. Centering around the St. Leo’s School and Parish.

Post Street (Formerly El Dorado St.) in Downtown is the first LGBT “QMunity” district in the city.

Willow Glen is a very progressive area with a small-town California feel, but its median home price is over a million dollars.

Downtown area is also a very hip place for young, mostly single people.

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

County of Santa Clara Office of LGBTQ Affairs - <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/lgbtq/About/our-team/Pages/home.aspx>

Silicon Valley Pride - <https://www.svpride.com/>

DeFrank House - <https://www.defrankcenter.org/>

San Jose Rainbow Chamber - <https://rainbowchamber.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

DeFrank House: <https://www.defrankcenter.org/about-menu/board-of-directors>

*Individuals*

Gabrielle Antolovich – President of DeFrank House Board

Bettie Owen – Board President of San Jose Rainbow Chamber

**Local Redistricting Resources**

San Jose has several redistricting experts and companies doing regional and statewide redistricting. Potential redistricting leadership to tap includes:

Nicolas Heidorn ([nick@heidornpcs.com](mailto:nick@heidornpcs.com)) – redistricting staff for Common Cause

Paul Mitchell ([paul@redistrictingpartners.com](mailto:paul@redistrictingpartners.com)) – owner of Redistricting Partners

Carol Watts ([League@LwvSantaClaraCounty.org](mailto:League@LwvSantaClaraCounty.org)) – President of Santa Clara County LWV

Greg Bazhaw – GIS Administrator and Planner in charge of Santa Clara Redistricting

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Savannah, GA 3/6

Savannah, GA is not a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 3 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** None found. |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Chatham, City of Savannah, and Chatham County School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Chatham and City of Savannah |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Member of the City Council |

**Districted Election Systems**

* Chatham County Commission – 8 districted members, at-large Chairman, four-year terms
  + Current map: <https://www.chathamcountyga.gov/Commission/DistrictMaps>
  + District Shapefiles: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Savannah/Chatham%20County%20Comiss%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Savannah City Council – 6 Districted Seats and 3 At-Large members, at-large mayor, four-year terms
  + Current map: <https://www.savannahga.gov/389/Aldermanic-Districts>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Savannah/Savannah%20Ward%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Chatham County School Board – 8 districted elected members, at-large President, four-year terms
  + Current map: <https://sagis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=17a7a92760c14f4abda14bc3b9fcf19c>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Savannah/Chatham%20County%20School%20Board%20Map.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

The city will do its redistricting in the first half of 2023. There are not many specific details to be found, but it looks like the city council does this itself.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Kurtis Purtee – Member of Savannah City Council, 2020-

*Savannah’s first openly gay member of the City Council (District 6) and elected in 2020. Vocal advocate for expanding City’s ordinance on non-discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The LGBTQ community tends to be a little more low key than in other cities. There are not specific areas or neighborhoods that are specifically oriented towards to LGBT community.

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

PROUD Savannah - LGBT City Task Force - <https://www.savannahga.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2311>

Georgia Equality - <https://georgiaequality.org/>

First City Pride – LGBT Center - <https://www.firstcitypridecenter.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

Donovan Pitts – President of First City LGBT Center Board

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Pat Bryd, executive director - <https://www.fairdistrictsga.org/>

Aunna Dennis ([adennis@commoncause.org](mailto:adennis@commoncause.org)) – Common Cause GA Executive Director

Rebecca Rolfes ([lwvcga@gmail.com](mailto:lwvcga@gmail.com)) – President of Coastal Georgia LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Seattle, WA 4/6

Seattle, WA is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Capitol Hill |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Kings, City of Seattle, and Seattle School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Kings and City of Seattle |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Mayor, President of Seattle Council, and President of Seattle School Board |

**Districted Election Systems**

* King County – 9 districted Councilmembers, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://www.kingcounty.gov/~/media/depts/elections/elections/maps/county-council-district-maps/county-council-districts-2012.ashx>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Seattle/King%20County%20Council%20Districts.zip?role=personal>
* Seattle City Council – 7 districted Councilmembers, 2 at-large members, at-large mayor, four-year terms
  + Current map: <https://www.seattle.gov/Images/CityArchive/Search/Districts/councildistricts.jpg>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Seattle/Seattle%20Council%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Seattle School Board – 7 districted elected members, four-year terms
  + Current map: <https://www.seattleschools.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_543/File/District/Departments/Enrollment%20Planning/Maps/DirectorDistricts/DirectorDistricts_ANSI_B_ADA.pdf>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Seattle/Seattle%20School%20Board%20District%20Map.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

A 5-member Redistricting Committee will be appointed by Oct. 31st, 2022 (elections in 2023) by the Mayor (2), Council (2), and the Committee itself (1). This committee will hire a ‘Redistricting Master’ to draw the maps. All districts must be within 1% of each other.

<https://assets.ctfassets.net/mla2k9txthv8/66bmCjo9lS282ucgGISWoy/4fb17a563e22885f46f714f9277e8347/SeattleCityCharter.pdf>

The current 7 single member districts were enacted in 2013, and this will be the first redistricting process they have gone through. There is an idea to add an 8th district, and keep the 2 at large districts, bringing the total seats to 10. <https://www.theurbanist.org/2020/06/30/seattle-needs-a-10th-councilmember/>

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Jenny Durkan – Mayor of Seattle, 2017-

*Elected Seattle’s first openly lesbian Mayor in 2017. Started career as US DA for Western District of Washington – appointed by President Obama in 2009.*

Jon McDermott – King County Council, 2010-

*First openly gay member of the King County Council – elected to represent Downtown Seattle in 2010. Elected to Seattle’s 34th Senate District in 2007. Elected to Seattle’s 34th House District in 2000.*

Zachary DeWolf – President of Seattle School Board, 2019-

*First openly gay President of the Seattle School Board. Elected to represent District 5 on the school board in 2017. Started career as Vice President of the Capitol Hill Community Council.*

Ed Murray – Mayor of Seattle, 2014-2017

*Appointed to represent Seattle’s 43rd House District in 1995. Elected to Seattle’s 43rd State Senate District in 2006. Elected Mayor of Seattle in 2013. Vocal advocate for non-discrimination statutes on the basis of sexual orientation.*

**LGBTQ Communities of Interest**

Capitol Hill - The gayest of the gay neighborhoods in "Jet City" (more of that Boeing rep!), Capitol Hill is a great destination for its restaurants, nightlife, and walkability. It's a bit of a hoof uphill from downtown Seattle, but once you're there you're in for a full day. ty of Interest

Queen Anne - There's no shortage of queens atop this vast neighborhood that occupies one of Seattle's great hills. So take the No. 2 bus or hike it up Queen Anne Avenue to Kerry Park, where you can take in perhaps the greatest view of the Space Needle and downtown's gleaming skyscrapers. Doris Chase's 15-foot-tall black steel Changing Form sculpture adds some culture to the vista -- its geometric cutouts revealing cool sightlines to the city and Puget Sound sprawled out below.

Fremont - The Mecca of quirk in a city of quirkiness is Fremont -- self proclaimed "Center of the Universe." Tucked on the north side of Queen Anne Hill, you'll find some of the most noteworthy Seattle sculptures in this all-inclusive hub of happy hippies.

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

Equal Rights Washington - <http://www.equalrightswashington.org/>

Greater Seattle Business Association – LGBT Chamber - <https://www.thegsba.org/>

Gay City – LGBT Center - <http://www.gaycity.org/>

Lambert House – LGBT Youth Support - <https://www.lamberthouse.org/>

Seattle Pride: <https://www.seattlepride.org/about-us>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

Gay City (LGBT Center)- <https://www.gaycity.org/board-of-directors/>

*Individuals*

Peter Mann-King – Co-Chair of Gay City Board

Carrie Carson – Vice Chair of Greater Seattle Business Association Board

Monisha Harrell – Chair of Equal Rights Washington Board

Alex Ruble – President of Seattle Pride Board

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Alyssa Weed ([info@seattlelwv.org](mailto:info@seattlelwv.org)) – President of Seattle LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# St. Louis, MO 4/6

St. Louis, MO is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 4 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Tower Grove |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of St. Louis and City of St. Louis |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of St. Louis and City of St. Louis |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – None found. |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Member of St. Louis City Council and Member of MO Legislature representing St. Louis |

**Districted Election Systems**

* St Louis County Council – 7 districted members, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://i2.wp.com/kirkwoodgadfly.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Screen-Shot-2019-11-03-at-1.39.36-PM-edited.png?w=733&ssl=1>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/St.%20Louis/St.%20Louis%20County%20Council%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* St Louis City Council – 28 Districted Seats and 1 At-Large Mayor
  + Current Map: <https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/planning/documents/upload/2011CitywideWardMap1.pdf>
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/St.%20Louis/St.%20Louis%20Ward%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhood map: <https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/planning/documents/upload/CitywideNeighborhoodMap-2.pdf>
  + Neighborhood shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/St.%20Louis/St.%20Louis%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* St. Louis School Board – 7 at-large elected members, four-year terms

**Redistricting Process**

From 2011 – The Alderman (City Council) will see proposed maps and propose some on their own. Then they will vote for the new maps. This can be a very contentious process as there is considerable tension in the African American districts losing power as the population diversifies.

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Shane Cohn – St. Louis Alderman, 2009-

*First openly gay member of the St. Louis Council. Co-authored legislation that added gender identity to as protected class in St. Louis. Started career as a community organizer in Dutchtown.*

Jeanette Mott Oxford – Member of Missouri House, 2005-

*Elected first openly lesbian member of the Missouri Legislature in 2004, representing St. Louis.*

Mike Colona – Member of Missouri House, 2009-2017

*Elected to represent St. Louis’s Tower Grove South Neighborhood in 2008.*

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

*The Grove – St. Louis’ most historical and active present day ‘gayborhood’. Between the 1990s and 2010s, the Grove, in Forest Park Southeast, became the "heir apparent" to the Central West End's LGBT club scene. Although the Grove remains the most high-profile gayborhood in St. Louis, the rise of mainstream venues and other markers of gentrification have raised alarms among the LGBTQ community that the history of the Central West End may be repeating itself. In addition to gay bars, the Pride Center and Transgender Memorial Garden are located in the neighborhood.*

Tower Grove

Soulard

Carondelet

Metro East

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

St. Louis Pride Center: <https://www.pridestl.org/pridecenter/about>

St. Louis LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce: <https://stlouislgbtqchamberofcommerce.com/>

PROMO: <https://promoonline.org/>

Gateway Gay Men’s Chorus: <http://www.gmcstl.org/>

**LTBTQ Leadership**

St. Louis Pride Center: <https://www.pridestl.org/board>

*Individuals*

Christa Cunningham – President of Pride STL Board

Phillip Deitch – President of St. Louis LGBT Chamber of Commerce Board

Michael Cole – Chair of PROMO Board

Michael Franzoni – Executive Director of Gateway Gay Men’s Chorus

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Mayor’s LGBTQ Liaison - <https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/mayor/profiles/lgbtq-liaison.cfm>

Louise Wilkerson ([league@lwvstl.org](mailto:league@lwvstl.org)) – President of St Louis LWV

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

None found.

# Tampa, FL 5/6

Tampa, FL is a strong candidate for an LGBT program as it has 5 out of 6 measurable characteristics

Summary Table

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | - **Identifiable LGBTQ+ Community** is the neighborhood of Ybor City |
|  | - **Districted Elections** County of Hillsborough, City of Tampa, and Hillsborough County School Board |
|  | - **Public Redistricting Process** County of Hillsborough and City of Tampa |
|  | - **Historic LGBTQ+ Discrimination** – strong political culture of opposing LGBTQ+ protections |
|  | - **Prior Participation in Redistricting** – None found. |
|  | - **Current Local LGBTQ+ Elected Officials** – Mayor of Tampa, two members of St. Petersburg City Council, and member of FL House represent St. Petersburg |

**Districted Election Systems**

Tampa has several agencies that are in districted systems that overlap a potential LBTBQ Community of Interest.

* County of Hillsborough County Commissioners – 3 at-large, 4 districted, four-year terms
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Tampa/Hillsborough%20County%20Comiss%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* City of Tampa – 3 at large, 4 districted, Elected Mayor, four-year terms
  + Current Map: <https://tampa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=72b647c13f6c4606b93989da3ce55ef2>
  + Districts shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Tampa/Tampa%20Council%20Map.zip?role=personal>
  + Neighborhoods shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Tampa/Tampa%20Neighborhood%20Map.zip?role=personal>
* Hillsborough County School Board – 5 Districted Seats and 2 At-Large, four-year term
  + Current map: [https://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/doc/695/school-board/important-information/board-map/](https://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/doc/595/school-board/important-information/board-map/)
  + District shapefile: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/LGBT/A%20folder%20for%20LGBT%20project%20Shapefiles/Tampa/Hillsborough%20County%20School%20Board%20Map.zip?role=personal>

**Redistricting Process**

The Tampa City Charter, Article VIII, Section 8.03, states the incorporated city shall be redivided by recommendation and with the approval of the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission, into seven council districts, three of those districts being identical with the territorial boundaries of the city, and four districts being divisions of the entire city, each containing as nearly as possible as equal population, while maintaining the integrity of precinct boundaries.” This process has to be completed by April 1 in the year preceding the elections. City Council districts are redistricted every four years. The next redistricting is scheduled to occur in 2022.

The Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission took place on August 14, 2017 at which staff presented information on the redistricting process. The final, public hearing took place on January 22, 2018 where the Planning Commission approved Alternative 3.

<http://www.planhillsborough.org/redistricting/>

**LGBTQ Elected Officials**

Jane Castor – Mayor of Tampa, 2019-   
*Castor had already made history in Tampa before winning the mayor's race. She was the first woman and first gay woman to serve as Tampa's police chief; she worked in the department for 31 years, beginning as a beat cop, according to her campaign website.*

Michele Rayner – Member of FL House, 2020-

*First openly LGBTQ+ black woman elected in Florida, representing St. Petersburg.*

Amy Foster – St. Petersburg Councilwoman, 2013-

Darden Rice – St. Petersburg Councilwoman, 2013-

**LGBTQ Community of Interest**

The City of Tampa and surrounding area has a vibrant and strong LGBT community and history.

From the Visit Tampa Bay website: <https://www.visittampabay.com/tampa-events/tampa-lgbt-pride/>

*Explore the brick-lined streets of GaYBOR (a GLBTA-friendly collective of 200+ businesses located in historic Ybor City) to the scrumptious restaurant scene, Tampa Bay is Florida's most welcoming destination with treasures hidden around every corner. You can check out our bold nightlife with clubs, restaurants and bars, indulge in some world-class shopping—or have an incredible adventure at one of our many local attractions. Whatever you seek, you’ll find it in Tampa Bay.*

From the Livability.com website, they describe the neighborhood community as a great place to come to for fun and acceptance in the South.

*Tampa is also becoming a hotspot for LGBTQ folks who want the benefits that come with living in the sunshine state — along with a culture of acceptance and inclusion. The city’s MEI score of 100 is well earned. Tampa’s outgoing mayor Bob Buckhorn has dedicated both time and effort to championing diversity and the LGBTQ community. He says, “I would be hard pressed to imagine that you would find a city in America that is any more inclusive than we are — and proud of it.” He admits to using his pulpit to drive home the message, “In our diversity, we are stronger.”*

**LGBTQ Facilities / Organizations**

There are a number of local organizations in the Sacramento area that bring the LGBTQ Community together.

Tampa Pride: <https://tampapride.org/>

Equality Florida: <https://www.eqfl.org/>

Metro Wellness: <https://www.metrotampabay.org/>

Balance Tampa Bay: <https://www.balancetampabay.org/>

Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber: https://www.diversitytampabay.org/

**LTBTQ Leadership**

*Organizations*

Equality Florida - <https://www.eqfl.org/staff>

*Individuals*

Nadine Smith, Executive Director EQFL

**Local Redistricting Resources**

Tampa has very few people working in the redistricting space.

Idelia Phillips ([president@hclwv.org](mailto:president@hclwv.org)) – President of Hillsborough County LWV

Anjenys Gonzalez-Eilert ([ageilert@commoncause.org](mailto:ageilert@commoncause.org)) – Common Cause FL Executive Director

**Historic or Current Anti-Gay Movements / Policies**

Hillsborough County had a ban on using any government money or resources on LGBT events until 2013. - <https://www.tampabay.com/news/localgovernment/public-hearing-under-way-over-hillsborough-county-ban-on-acknowledging-gay/2124940/>

Rhonda Storms is the main face of the anti-LGBT community - <https://www.tampabay.com/blogs/baybuzz/2018/03/09/ronda-storms-is-back-with-a-run-for-district-69-house-seat/>

<https://watermarkonline.com/2014/02/27/doctoral-student-collects-tampa-bays-lgbt-history/>