

RESOLUTION NO. 13-054

WHEREAS, pursuant to a petition of qualified voters filed under the provisions of the Council Manager Act of 1982 duly adopted by the Alabama Legislature, an election was held in Decatur as to whether to change the form of government to a council-manager form of government;

WHEREAS, the result of the election was to approve the change of government to a council-manager form of government;

WHEREAS, the City Council diligently reviewed various potential three single member voting district plans dictated by the provisions of the Council Manager Act of 1982, that requires the three single member districts and two at large elected council members, and received input from the general public through public meetings;

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Council Manager of 1982 require that each of the three single member districts contain as nearly an equal number of people as possible;

WHEREAS, the City Council previously approved and authorized the Mayor to submit on behalf of the City of Decatur as a Section 5 submission under the Voting Rights Act to the appropriate division of the Department of Justice the Voting District Plan labeled and presented as the “Three Substantially Equal Districts” Plan;

WHEREAS, the City Council subsequently voted to withdraw from Department of Justice consideration its Section 5 submittal of that particular Voting District Plan in order to timely file and have pre-cleared a Voting District Plan for the Mayor Council form of government with five single member districts;

WHEREAS, there continues to be questions by the public surrounding the fact that the City did not seek a completed review of its “Three Substantially Equal Districts” Plan by the Department of Justice, Voting Rights Section;

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Mayor have concerns about the “Three Substantially Equal Districts” Plan’s retrogressive impact on the minority voters in our City in electing the City officials as well as the School Board officials, and believe the Vote of the

People in favor of a Council Manager form of government is the sole justification for any submittal and requested pre-clearance of that Plan;

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that the citizens of Decatur deserve a complete review and answer regarding Pre-clearance of the “Three Substantially Equal Districts” Plan with the City providing the latest election data in addition to the information previously provided;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Decatur, Alabama after consideration of public input and review, the Mayor is authorized to submit on behalf of the City of Decatur as a Section 5 submission under the Voting Rights Act to the appropriate division of the Department of Justice the Voting District Plan previously labeled and presented as the “Three Substantially Equal Districts” Plan; seeking review of information previously submitted along with the 2012 Election data now being provided

ADOPTED this 4th day of March 2013.