



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE PROPOSED MINNEAPOLIS REPUBLICAN BPOU

Political change starts from the ground up, not from the top down. And that’s where you come in. As a citizen, your voice can be heard if you’re willing to participate. And right now we need your participation. It feels hard to be a Republican in deep-blue Minneapolis — so let’s change that!

THE BASICS

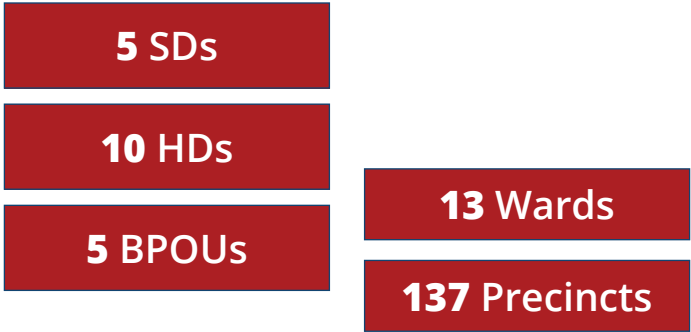
What is a BPOU? BPOU stands for Basic Political Organizing Unit. It is the smallest governing body of Republican organizations. You caucus with this group early in an election year. It consists of several precincts, but depending on population density, its geographical size can vary. In rural areas, it can be a county or multiple counties, but in a metro area, a single city can consist of multiple BPOUs. Currently, there are **5 BPOUs** in Minneapolis.

What is a Ward? A Ward is a geographic location, represented by a City Council Member who is elected to make laws that govern the city. There are **13 Wards** in Minneapolis.

What is a Precinct? Precincts are the basic geographical areas for organizing and administering elections. They are established by the governing body of each city or town, or by the county board in unorganized territories. Currently there are **137 precincts** in Minneapolis

What is a State Senate District? Minnesota Senate Districts (SDs) are determined by geographic location based on U.S. census data every 10 years. Each Senate District sends one State Senator to the Minnesota State Senate. There are **5 SDs** in Minneapolis.

What is a State House District? Minnesota House Districts (HDs) are determined by State Senate Districts, Two House Districts (A and B) make up one State Senate District. Each House District sends one State Representative to the Minnesota House of Representatives. There are **10 HDs** in Minneapolis.



Did You Know?
The 13 Wards and 137 Precincts within Minneapolis *do not* fall neatly into each of the five Senate Districts. Currently, each SD is *also* a BPOU. We can change that, in order to be more effective and efficient.

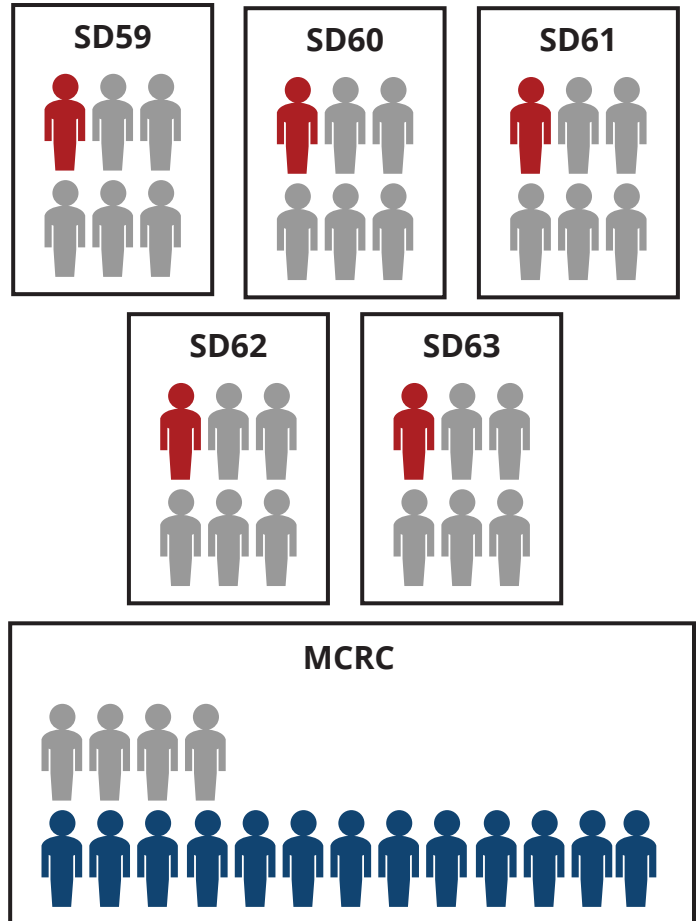
REASONS TO CONSOLIDATE

Many people have been working towards this new organization for over a decade. Here are some reasons to consolidate the five BPOUs in Minneapolis into one.

- The state party constitution was amended at the 2022 Convention in Rochester to allow us to create this specific BPOU. We will gain new allies and relationships, and have been promised financial support.
- All five BPOUs are duplicating tasks needed to sustain a BPOU, instead of focusing on elections. By reducing SD leadership to Chair and Deputy Chair, it frees up volunteers for other things.
- The functions of the Minneapolis City Republican Committee (MCRC) will be integrated into the new BPOU, allowing us to better leverage the Ward Chairs.
- Caucuses can be organized and held by Ward, not SD. This places emphasis on the Ward and Precinct relationships — something impossible for SDs to do.
- Ward Chairs can be elected on caucus night, same as the Precinct Chairs — when the most potential volunteers are present.
- Ward Chairs will be part of the Minneapolis Republican Party Full Committee; this creates 13 new elected positions in BPOU leadership. Currently, Precinct Chairs are part of SD Full Committees, but those positions are rarely filled.
- As one organization representing up to 15 legislative candidates, we can coordinate fundraisers and other efforts to make sure as many of our candidates as possible can meet the public subsidy requirements.
- We can negotiate as a complete Minneapolis City organization in asking for assistance and donations — especially asking Greater Minnesota Republican groups to support our candidates for the public subsidy.
- The Chair can legally speak on behalf of the city. We can issue press releases, communicate to the media and social media as one coherent organization.
- As one single organization, we can maintain attention on all elections. The same volunteers can focus on national, state and municipal elections. Everyone is on the same calendar and can share resources. City Council and School Board elections receive very little attention at SD meetings because of the fragmented political boundaries.

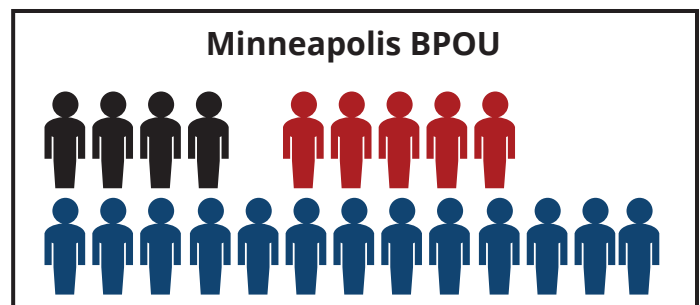
Current

6 separate organizations duplicating efforts



Proposed

1 organization working together efficiently



- Instead of 5 SDs all working independently to find locations, train and prepare for Caucus, and hold conventions, one larger organization can do the same work with more resources. Currently, when a campaign ends, the volunteers disappear. With the new organization, they can find out about the next campaign even if it's in another part of the city.

SDs will still exist as required by the MNGOP Constitution. They will elect Chairs, Deputy Chairs and delegates for State, CD5 and State Central Committee conventions.

HOW TO RUN FOR AN OFFICER POSITION IN THE NEW BPOU

Each of the five BPOUs within Minneapolis will meet separately on March 25, 2023 to vote on whether or not to consolidate into one new BPOU. If created, there will four positions to elect:

- Chair
- Deputy Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer

See "Article II: BPOU Officers" of the proposed constitution for position descriptions. This document can be found at sd61gop.org. If you are interested in running for one of these positions, here is what you need to do:

- Submit your intent to run in writing by sending an email to beck.alec1961@gmail.com no later than **Friday, March 17, 2023 at 5:00 pm.** You must include your name, address, and phone number.
- Attend an interview with the Nominations Committee on **Monday, March 20, 2023** via Zoom.

Upon acceptance by the Nominations Committee, you may receive a list of Delegates and Alternates from each of the five BPOUs. In order to do that, you must sign an agreement not to use the list for anything other than campaigning for an officer position in the new BPOU.

You may prepare printed materials to distribute on the day of the convention.

You will have two (2) minutes to address the convention prior to voting.

The five Minneapolis SD Chairs recommend you vote YES on joining the proposed Minneapolis BPOU.

Map of CD5

