

REDUCE NORTH BRADDOCK GOVERNMENT

OBJECTIVE:

Decrease borough council from 9 to 7 seats based on decreasing population and lack of interest for candidates. Elect two seats per ward & one seat at-large on four year terms. Attempt to receive petition signatures from at least 5% of the borough registered voters.

FACTS:

- Population peaked in 1930 at 16,782, while only 4,857 residents in 2010.
- 11,925 residents lost since 1930, but government size never changed.
- Population fell 6,410 to 4,857 during 2000-2010, which is a 24% decline.
- Act 47 economic recovery plan recommended council reduction in 1996.
- Eliminating two positions saves money for a struggling community.
- Smaller government is more efficient and tightly regulated.
- Fewer seats create tighter elections & are easier to fill with interested candidates.
- Less candidate interest with resident turnover and rental property residents.
- North Braddock is the only town in Woodland Hills School District with 9 seats.
- Forest Hills, Swissvale, Turtle Creek, & Wilkins have more residents, but only 7 elected seats.
- The majority of boroughs in Pennsylvania fall in the group of 7 council seats.
- Guidelines allow communities under 3,000 residents to decrease to 5 seats. North Braddock could possibly be under that population in the future.
- FYI: Monroeville has 28,386 residents, 19.8 sq. mi, but only 7 council seats.

WOODLAND HILLS COMMUNITIES

COMMUNITY	POPULATION	AREA SQ. MI.	SEATS
BRADDOCK	2,159	0.6	6
BRADDOCK HILLS	1,880	1.0	7
CHALFANT	800	0.2	7
CHURCHILL	3,011	2.2	7
EAST PITTSBURGH	1,822	0.4	5
EDGEWOOD	3,118	0.6	7
FOREST HILLS	6,518	1.6	7
NORTH BRADDOCK	4,857	1.6	9
RANKIN	2,122	0.5	7
SWISSVALE	8,983	1.3	7
TURTLE CREEK	5,349	1.0	7
WILKINS	6,357	2.6	5

11, 925 resident decrease since 1930, but government size never changed.

POPULATION FROM U.S. CENSUS (2010)