

Founder's District Split Proposal FAQ

Q: Why should we consider splitting Founder's District?

A: In comparison to the other Districts within the Toastmasters International organization, Founder's District is one of the largest with 223 clubs. The workload in managing such a large district for the top District officers is significant; in addition, that workload has limited the officer's abilities to effectively serve the members. It has also deterred good candidates from running for higher office. Splitting the District would reduce the workload of top District officers and encourage more members to step up into the leadership roles.

Q: Who can vote on this proposal to split the District?

A: The voting members of the District Council which includes the Club Presidents and VP Educations (or their proxy), the District Governor, Lt. Governor Education & Training, Lt. Governor Marketing, the District Public Relations Officer, the District Secretary, the District Treasurer, the Division Governors and the Area Governors.

Q: What happens to the name Founder's District?

A: Per Toastmasters International, and the Founder's District Charter, the name Founder's District is given to the home District of Smedley Club Chapter #1. As of right now, this club is located to the south of the 22 freeway proposed boarder, and therefore will remain with the original District.

But members who will be in the New District (number to be later determined), will ALWAYS be able to claim that they came from Founder's District.

Q: How will the New District be funded?

A: Per Toastmasters International Protocol 7.0 District Structure: At the time of the split, all funds either in Founder's District Bank Accounts or in the World Headquarters Founder's Reserve Account will be distributed amongst the two districts based on the % of member payments made by member clubs in each reformed District in the program year immediately preceding the reformation (split.)

Q: Will the New District have any support from Founder's District?

A: When the District splits – support for BOTH of the Districts will come from the Regional Advisor, International Director, and past leaders within the Districts. Because of the close geography, past leaders will also be available to help both Districts. (The new District will have many past leaders including a Past International President as members.)

Q: What is the process for the split as it relates to the leaders of the Districts?

A: If the proposal to move forward with the split is approved at the April 25, 2015 Business Meeting, at the following Founder's Spring Conference, one District Director would be elected for the 2016-2017 term. But instead of one set of secondary officers (Program Quality Director and Club Growth Director), the District would elect two sets - one for Founder's and one for the new District. So for the 2016-2017 term, there would be 5 top officers in Founders. Division Directors would still be elected and Area Directors would still be appointed by the District Director.

The following year (2017-2018) the split would officially take place with each District electing a District Director and other officers.