# **IEEE Region 3 SoutheastCon 2021**









# **Proposed Region 3 Area Changes**

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## **Outline**

- ➤ What are Areas and Councils
- ➤ Why Make Changes
- **→** Process



## What are Areas and Councils

- Video link was sent to the ExCom and Section Chairs this week
  - IEEE 101
  - Governance documents
  - "A Targeted Introduction for Region 3 Section Chairs, March 2021"
- Available on the Region 3 Volunteers YouTube channel
- https://youtu.be/H-KRAfNtCiQ



## What are Areas

- ➤ Paraphrasing: An Area is a part of a Region, consisting of several Sections, which is established by the Region Committee for the purpose of improving communications within and management of the Region
  - Area Chairs are appointed by the Region Director
  - The Area Chair acts on behalf of and at the direction of the Region Director on specific assignments related to the management and administration of the Region
  - The Area Chair(s) may serve on the Region Committee with the approval of the Region Committee
- Areas are a line of insight into Section health, and a way to share resources, best practices, and training
- Director-Elect works directly with the Area Chairs



## What are Geographic Councils

- ➤ Paraphrasing: A Council is formed by agreement of a group of contiguous Sections, and it exists at their pleasure it is subordinate to the Sections and the Sections direct its operation
  - Sections can join existing Councils
  - Sections can withdraw from Councils
- Councils are a way for Sections to work together to do things they perhaps could not do, or could not do as effectively, on their own

## **Why Make Changes**

- There are currently 9 Areas, ranging in size from 1 Section to 12 Sections
- ➤ There are currently 3 Councils
- ➤ Governing documents are not in agreement:
  - From the R3 bylaws: "Where the Sections in a state or other geographical area form a Council and elect a chair, this elected chair will serve also as the Area Chair for that group of Sections."
  - From the R3 Operations Manual: "An Area Chair represents the Region in each Area. It is permissible to substitute a Council Chair in the event the Council boundaries encompass the geographic Area. There can be one or more Councils in an Area."

## **Why Make Changes**

- An Area Chair that also serves as a Council Chair is supposed to operate both at the direction of the Sections AND at the direction of the Region Director
- ➤ Changes to Areas will not affect Councils. Current Councils can remain as they are
- ➤ Reducing the number of Areas/Area Chairs allows more of the ExCommembers to serve on the Region Committee, while still leaving the majority of the Region Committee as the Section Chairs (41 Sections chairs)

## **Process**

- ➤ Region Directors starting in 2014 have suggested and studied a reduction in the number of Areas
- ➤ Meetings with Area Chairs were held at several SoutheastCons to discuss this, including the currently proposed change
- Two ad hocs have studied the problem and reported their findings in 2019 and 2020



## **Process**

- ➤ Based on the findings of the 2020 Ad Hoc, I recommended that we proceed with their suggested reduction to 5 Areas
- Strategic Operations and Support Committee (SOSC) voted to approve the change and begin the process of modifying governing documents
- SOSC distributed the governing document changes in January, and discussed the changes at both the January and February ExCom meetings, with a motion in February



## **Process**

- ➤ The ExCom approved the February motion
- ➤ A motion will be presented tomorrow to the Region 3 Committee to approve the changes
- If the motion passes, the changes will be sent forward through MGA for legal and governance reviews, then MGA Board approval (hopefully June)
- ➤ If approved, the new Areas will be effective on Jan 1, 2022



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# Thank you!

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