



CITY OF SURPRISE
Redistricting Advisory Committee
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 @ 6:00 PM
 Community Room

- A. Call To Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Current Events and Reports
- E. Staff Reports
- F. Redistricting Advisory Committee

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

INSTRUCTIONS: In order to address the Board\Commission, you will need to fill out a Call to the Public Form available at the front counter, and then turn it in to the Secretary before the meeting begins.

Note: A.R.S. 38-431.01(H) - During this time members of the public may address the Board\Commission only on issues within the jurisdiction of the Board\Commission which are not an item on the agenda. At the conclusion of the open call, the Board\Commission may respond to criticism, may ask staff to review the matter or may ask that the matter be put on a future agenda. No discussion or action shall take place on any item raised.

CONSENT AGENDA:

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - PUBLIC HEARING:

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:

- | | | | |
|----|----------|---|--|
| 1. | Internal | Introductions and Role of the Committee | None

Lloyd Abrams
Community
Development |
| 2. | Internal | Overview on Redistricting and timeline | None

Lloyd Abrams
Community
Development |
| 3. | Internal | Citizen Engagement Strategies | None
Community
Development |

G. Other Business and Future Agenda Items

H. Executive Session

For information purposes: Upon a public majority vote of a quorum (“Commission”), the Commission may hold an executive session, which will not be open to the public, but for only the following purposes: discussion or consideration of records exempt by law from public inspection (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(2));

or discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3)).

Confidentiality Requirements: Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(C)(D), any person receiving executive session information pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02 shall not disclose that information

except to the Attorney General or County Attorney or by agreement of the Commission, or as otherwise ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

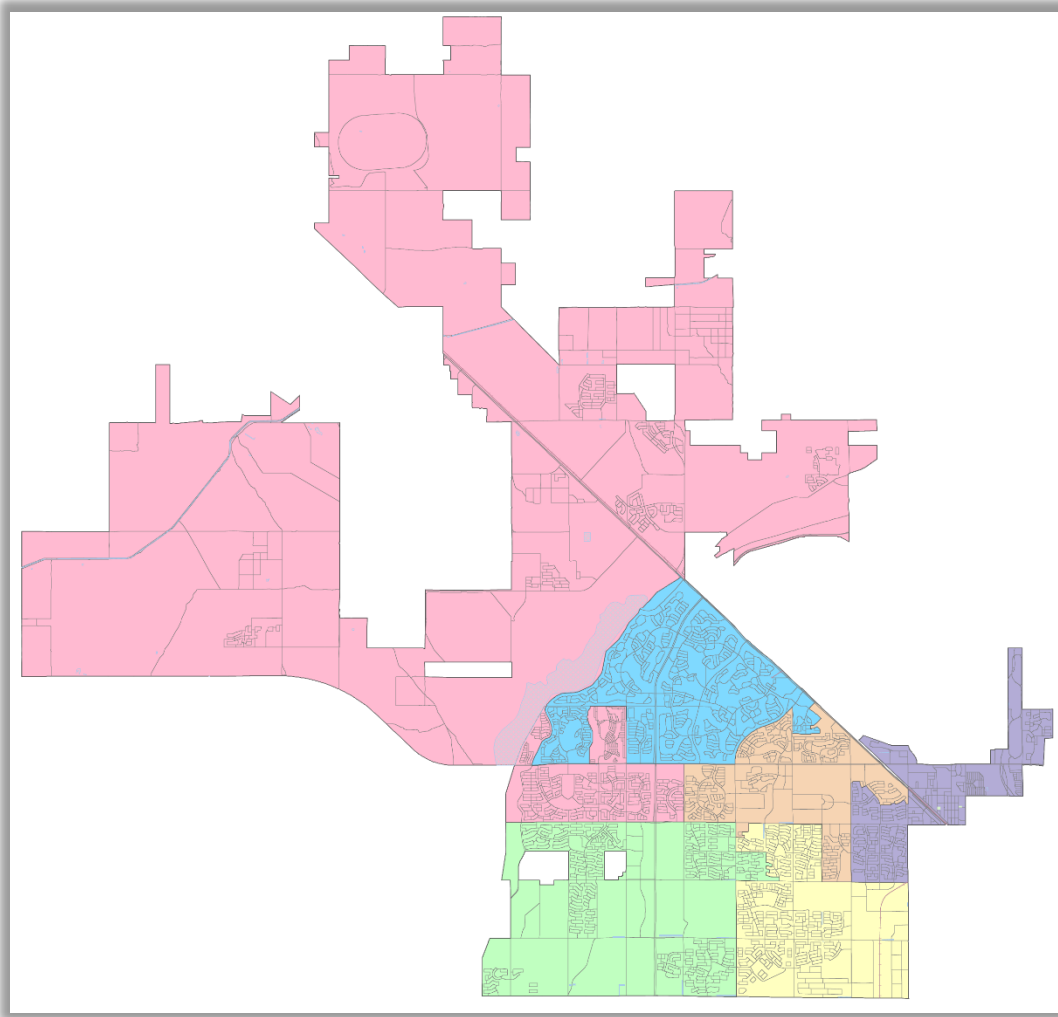
The Commission may vote to hold an executive session for the purpose of obtaining legal advice from the Commission's attorney on any matter listed on the agenda pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

- I. Adjournment

SHERRY ANN AGUILAR, CITY CLERK, MMC

POSTED: February 1st, 2023 @ 2:30 PM

SPECIAL NOTE: PERSONS WITH SPECIAL ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS, INCLUDING LARGE PRINT MATERIALS OR INTERPRETER, SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE @ 623.222.1200 OR TTY 623.222.1002, BY NO LATER THAN 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING TIME.



City of Surprise

Introduction to Redistricting

February 8,
2023

Shalice Tilton and Douglas Johnson
National Demographics Corporation

Redistricting Process

Date	Event
3 January 2023	Council meeting 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on population balance of existing districts • Council informational hearing • Council appoints and directs commission
8 February 2023	Advisory Commission meeting 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on organization, timeline, public mapping tools and outreach
8-10 March 2023	Advisory Commission meetings 2, 3 and 4 (each in a different part of town): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public education and opportunity for public to weigh in with any concerns about existing districts • (Likely hold 1 in Old Surprise, 1 north of Bell and 1 south of Bell)
29 March 2023	Advisory Commission meeting 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • first discussion of draft maps (narrow options; request revisions to be drawn by NDC)
17 April 2023	Advisory Commission meeting 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consider draft maps and adopt recommended map
	(Additional Commission meeting if needed to reach agreement)
2 May 2023	Council work session to review public input, draft maps and commission recommendation. Opportunity for Councilmembers to request any desired changes.
6 June 2023	Council meeting 2: vote on recommended or revised map

Redistricting Rules and Goals

Federal Laws

Equal Population
Federal Voting Rights Act
No Racial Gerrymandering

Arizona Statute 9-473.B.

Nearly equal number of inhabitants
Contiguous territory in as compact form as possible

Traditional Redistricting Principles

Communities of interest
Compact
Contiguous
Visible (Natural & man-made) boundaries
~~Continuity in office~~
Planned future growth
Minimize voters shifted to different election years
Preserving the core of existing election areas

Equal Population

- Rule for all jurisdictions except Congressional Districts:
 - / 14th Amendment equal protection requires reasonable population balance
 - / Simple “Rule of thumb”: “Each district must be within plus or minus five percent from the ideal per-district population”
 - / Actual rule: the largest district’s deviation from the ideal must be no more than 10% from the smallest district’s deviation from the ideal
 - A map would meet the 10% range requirement if one district is 8% under-populated and each of the other districts is over-populated by no more than 2%



Population Balance Math

- Ideal (or target) population = the City's total population divided by the number of districts
 - / Surprise in the 2020 Census had 143,148 residents
 - / The City has six districts
 - / The ideal district population was $143,148 / 6 = 23,858$

	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Field	ACACIA	COTTON WOOD	MESQUITE	MULBERRY	PALM	PALO VERDE	Total
Total Population	29,419	20,755	27,654	19,245	20,897	25,178	143,148
Deviation	5,561	-3,103	3,796	-4,613	-2,961	1,320	10,174
Pct. Deviation	23.31%	-13.01%	15.91%	-19.34%	-12.41%	5.53%	42.64%

42.64% is much higher than 10%, so the current districts are not population balanced.



New Legal Interpretation since 2016:

- 2011 rule: ‘as close to balanced as possible’
 - / Each deviation had to be justified by a court-approved criterion/goal
 - / *Larios v. Perdue* (2003) ruling generally controlled

- 2020 rule:
 - / Deviations up to 10% allowed to achieve allowable goals.
 - / *Harris v. Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission* (2016)
 - “the population deviations were primarily a result of good-faith efforts to comply with the Voting Rights Act ... even though partisanship played some role.”
 - “. . . appellants have not shown that it is more probable than not that illegitimate considerations were the predominant motivation behind the plan's deviations from mathematically equal district populations — deviations that were under 10%.”



Exceeding 10% Deviation

- If under 10% deviation, a plan is “presumptively constitutional”
 - / *Gaffney v. Cummings*, 412 U.S. 735 (1973)

- Above 10%, plan is “presumptively unconstitutional”

- The change shifts the burden of proof to the jurisdiction
 - / Practically guarantees long, expensive litigation
 - / Surrenders the considerable discretion granted by the *Harris* ruling



The Federal Voting Rights Act

- Geographic areas that have a concentration of voters from a “protected class” should not be divided in a way that dilutes their voting power.
- Race can be one consideration in drawing lines or selecting a map, but it cannot be the “predominate” consideration.
- *No majority-Latino district is mathematically possible in Surprise.*



Contiguity

- Best:

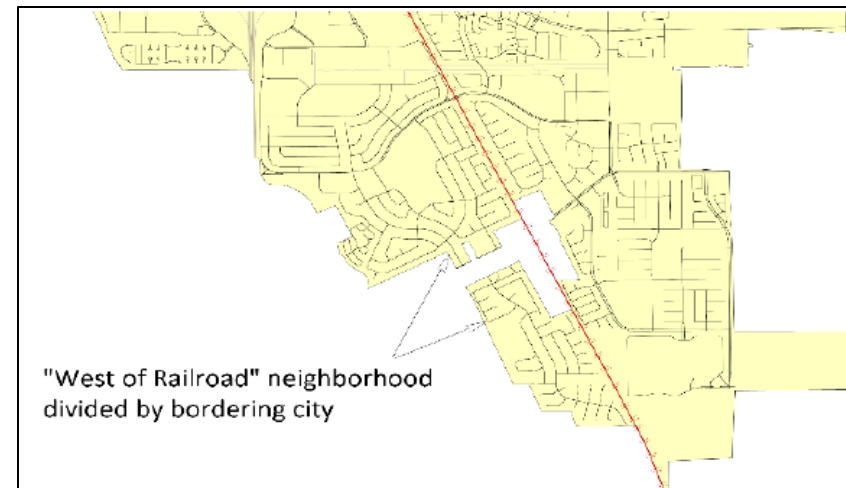
- / All parts of each district should physically touch.

- Debated:

- / No district divided by another district.

- / (Does a connection directly across non-city land mean a district is not contiguous?)

- / *Best to avoid such “connections” if possible, but might be ok.*



Neighborhoods and Communities

□ “Neighborhood”

- / Can be formally recognized by the City, defined by public input, and/or defined by the Commission.

□ “Community of Interest”

- / A geographic grouping of people who often, but not always, are connected by a shared issue or issue that brings the residents in a specific geographic area or areas together before the government in question (in this case, the City).



Community of Interest Examples

- Areas around parks, commercial corridors, schools/universities, or other amenities
- Natural and man-made features such as hills, rivers, canals, and freeways
- Planning areas, historic zones, homeowners' associations
- Shared demographic characteristics like similar income, occupation profiles, renters/owners, single/multi-family housing
- Areas with shared issues/impacts or city policy concerns



Communities of Interest

Defined By:

- Community testimony
 - / *Public Hearings*
 - / *Email/Phone/Letter*
 - / *Petitions*
- Jurisdiction data
 - / *Maps of parks, schools, facilities*
 - / *Master-planned communities*
 - / *Zones or areas (school attendance areas, economic development zones)*
- Census & demographic data
 - / *American Community Survey tract-level and block group-level demographics*

Challenges:

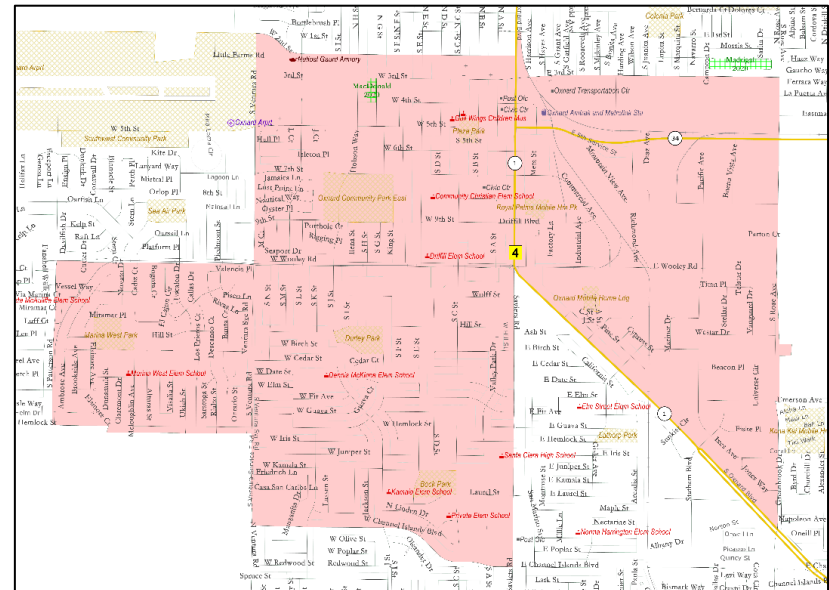
- What happens if groups disagree on where communities are or whether two areas share an interest?
- What happens if community testimony and a city's recognized map of "Neighborhoods" disagree?
- Are communities of interest that are not defined by population counted? Examples: Economic Development Zones, commercial corridors/downtown areas/industrial areas.
- How to decide if "effective and fair" representation would be better served by dividing a geographic area that has a shared interest?



Visible Boundaries

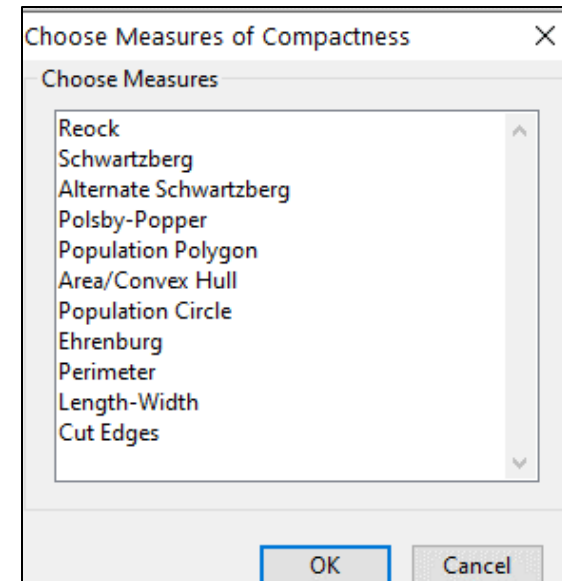
- ✓ Follow natural and artificial barriers and streets
- ✓ Major roads are better than minor roads
- ✓ Railroads, rivers, creeks and drainage channels are good since these often also act as neighborhood boundaries

An odd shape can still be easily understood if it follows major geographic features:

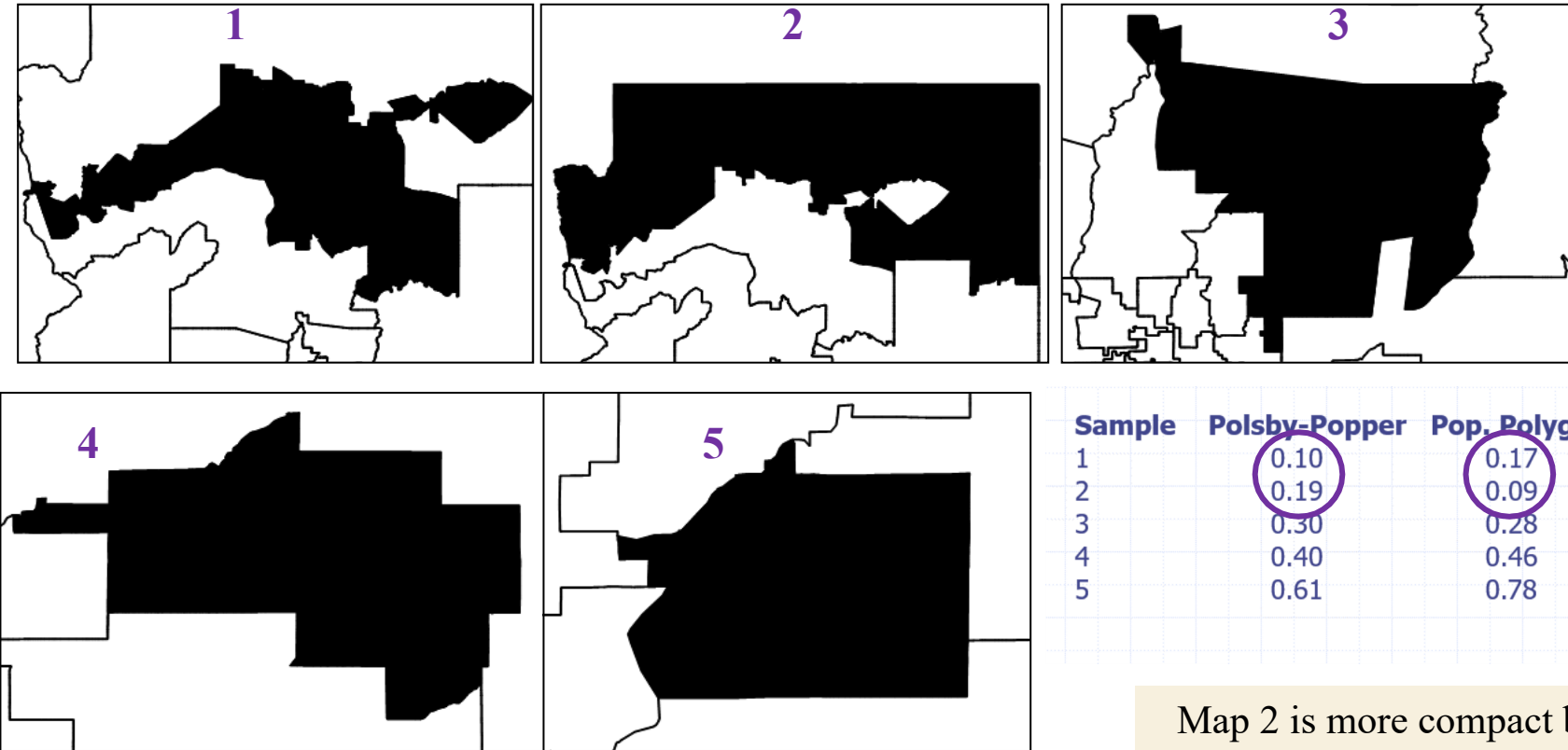


Compactness

- Compactness has a long and contentious history in redistricting studies and litigation
 - / Some measures create values. Others create ratios.
 - / Debate over whether the “average,” “median,” “total” or “extreme” results matter more.
 - / Used properly, the measures have value. But their differing results tend to be make them weak legal evidence.
 - / Polsby-Popper is the most commonly used, but only because it is very fast to calculate and easy to understand (not because it is better).



Sample Maps

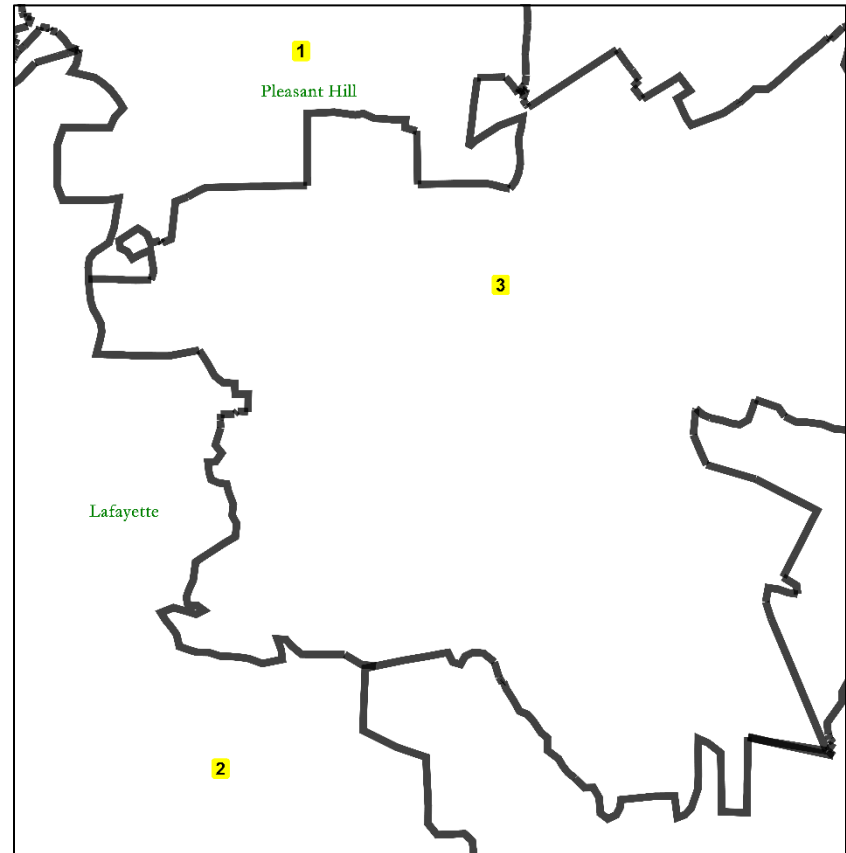


Sample	Polsby-Popper	Pop. Polygon	Pop. Circle
1	0.10	0.17	0.49
2	0.19	0.09	0.51
3	0.30	0.28	0.70
4	0.40	0.46	0.73
5	0.61	0.78	0.95

Map 2 is more compact by Polby-Popper, while Map 1 is more compact by the Population Polygon.

Districts should only be evaluated against those in a similar geographic area. Natural and man-made features like rivers and the city's boundaries may distort results.

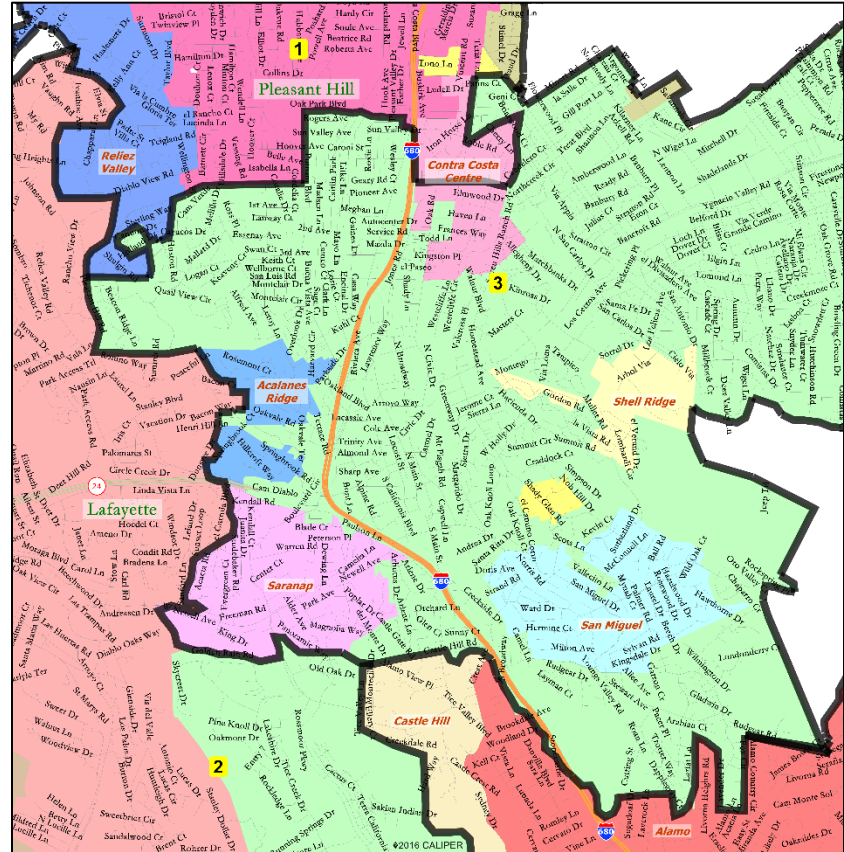
Not all crazy shapes are bad districts



Shape seems gerrymandered at first glance

Not all crazy shapes are bad

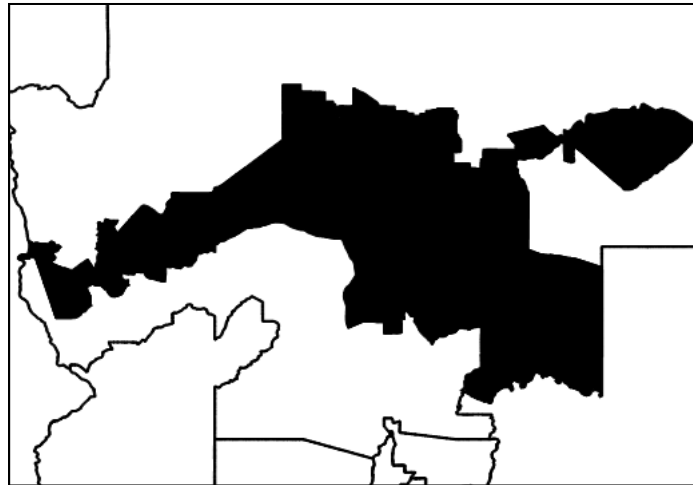
Hopi Reservation



These lines were following city borders.

Commonly Used Compactness Rule:

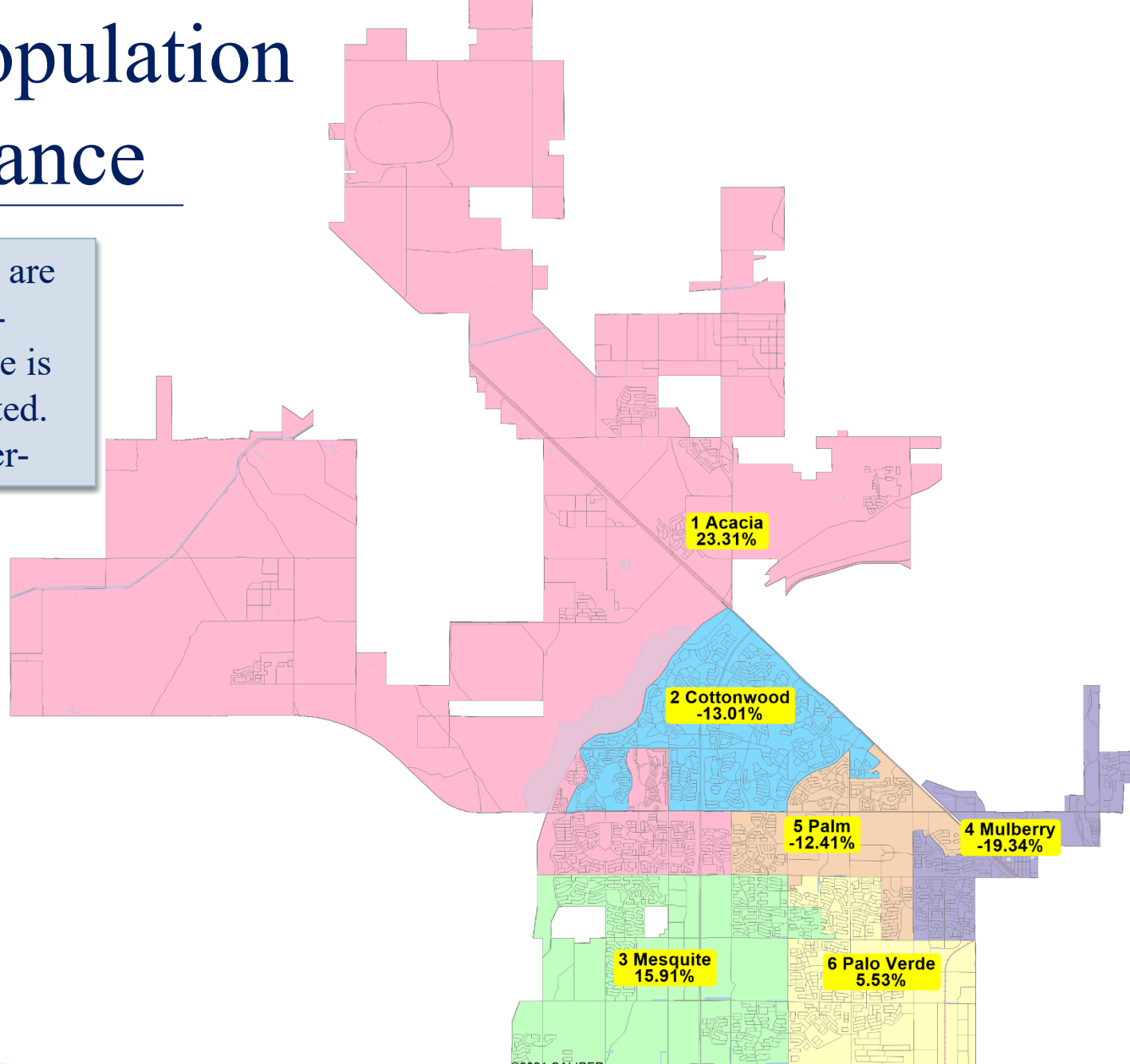
- ❑ Avoid bypassing nearby areas of population in favor of more distant populations.
- ❑ No formulas involved!



Other criteria can justify odd shapes.

Current Population Imbalance

Acacia and Mesquite are significantly over-populated. Palo Verde is slightly over-populated. The others are under-populated.



Existing District Demographics

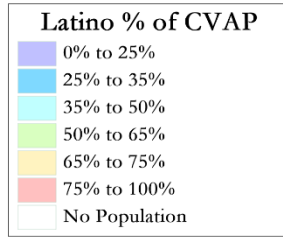
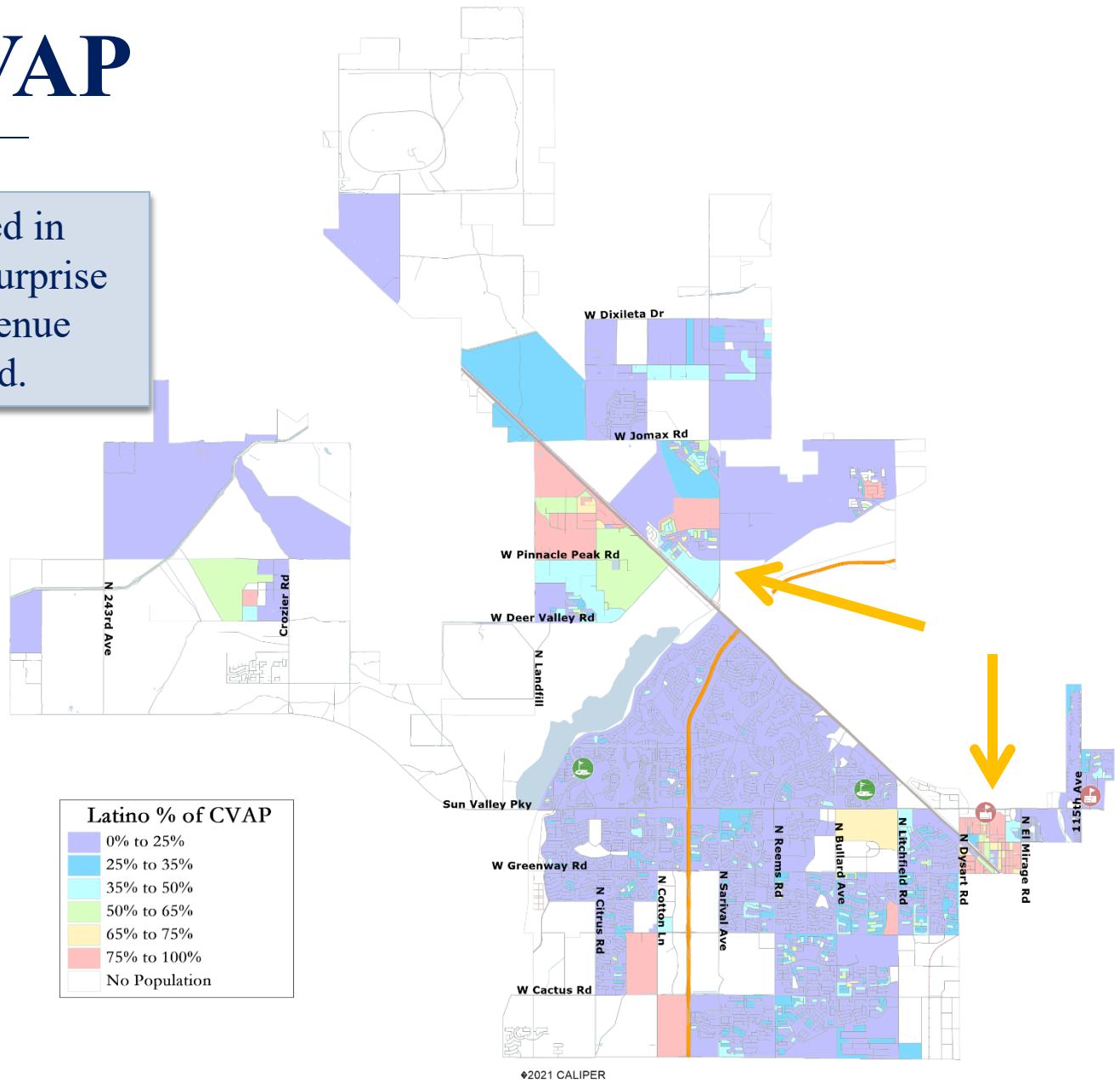
Each District must have about 23,858 people.

Category	Field	ACACIA	COTTONWOOD	MESQUITE	MULBERRY	PALM	PALO VERDE	Total
2020 Census	Total Population	29,419	20,755	27,654	19,245	20,897	25,178	143,148
	Deviation	5,561	-3,103	3,796	-4,613	-2,961	1,320	10,174
	Pct. Deviation	23.31%	-13.01%	15.91%	-19.34%	-12.41%	5.53%	42.64%
Total Pop.	Hispanic/ Latino	19%	4%	21%	32%	20%	23%	20%
	NH White	66%	90%	62%	54%	66%	61%	66%
	NH Black	6%	3%	8%	6%	7%	7%	6%
	NH Asian/ PacIsl.	4%	2%	5%	3%	4%	5%	4%
	NH Native Amer.	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	Total	17,491	18,090	17,105	14,113	15,427	15,919	98,144
	Hisp	16%	4%	16%	28%	14%	20%	16%
	NH White	71%	92%	70%	64%	74%	67%	73%
	NH Black	8%	2%	10%	5%	7%	8%	6%
	Asian/ PacIsl.	5%	1%	4%	2%	4%	4%	3%
	Native Amer.	0%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Age	age0-19	31%	5%	34%	25%	23%	33%	26%
	age20-60	48%	16%	52%	51%	53%	54%	46%
	age60plus	21%	80%	14%	24%	24%	14%	28%
Immigration	immigrants	8%	7%	8%	11%	8%	8%	9%
	naturalized	69%	63%	75%	56%	63%	71%	66%
Language spoken at home	english	88%	95%	87%	74%	89%	83%	86%
	spanish	7%	2%	9%	21%	6%	9%	9%
	asian-lang	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%
	other lang	1%	0%	1%	3%	0%	3%	1%
Language Fluency	Speaks Eng. "Less than Very Well"	2%	1%	3%	7%	3%	7%	4%
Education (among those age 25+)	hs-grad	64%	54%	67%	68%	71%	63%	64%
	bachelor	21%	26%	17%	12%	14%	20%	19%
	graduatedegree	9%	16%	8%	6%	7%	11%	10%
Child in Household	child-under18	38%	4%	47%	28%	25%	42%	29%
Pct of Pop. Age 16+	employed	63%	19%	67%	62%	60%	69%	56%
Household Income	income 0-25k	7%	13%	7%	17%	13%	8%	11%
	income 25-50k	20%	24%	16%	26%	25%	12%	21%
	income 50-75k	22%	23%	20%	27%	23%	20%	23%
	income 75-200k	47%	36%	53%	27%	35%	54%	42%
	income 200k-plus	4%	4%	4%	2%	3%	6%	4%
Housing Stats	single family	100%	93%	97%	87%	77%	100%	92%
	multi-family	0%	7%	3%	12%	23%	0%	8%
	rented	20%	11%	23%	33%	40%	22%	24%
	owned	80%	89%	77%	67%	60%	78%	76%

Total population data from California's adjusted 2020 Census data. Citizen Voting Age Population, Age, Immigration, and other demographics from the 2016-2020 American Community Survey and Special Tabulation 5-year data. Turnout and Registration data from California Statewide Database. "Latino" figures calculated by NDC using Census Bureau's Latino undercount by surname estimate.

Latino CVAP

Latinos are concentrated in two areas: Old Town Surprise and between Grand Avenue and Pinnacle Peak Road.



Communities of Interest

1st Question: What is your neighborhood or community of interest?

- ❑ Shared issue or characteristic
 - ❑ Shared social or economic interest
 - ❑ Impacted by city policies
- ❑ Tell us “your community’s story”

2nd Question: What are its geographic boundaries?

Examples of physical features defining a neighborhood boundary:

- ❑ Natural neighborhood dividing lines, such as highway or major roads, rivers, canals and/or hills
- ❑ Areas around parks or schools
- ❑ Other neighborhood landmarks

In the absence of public testimony, planning records and other similar documents may provide definition.



Public Mapping and Map Review Tools

- ❑ **Different tools for different purposes**
- ❑ **Different tools for different levels of technical skill and interest**
 - ❑ Simple “review draft maps” tool
 - ❑ Paper-based simple “Draw a draft map” tools
 - ❑ Powerful, data-rich “Draw a draft map” online tool

Whether you use the powerful (but complicated) online mapping tool, the paper kit, or just draw on a napkin, we welcome your maps!

Simple Map Drawing Tool

Paper “Public Participation Kit”

- ❑ For those without internet access or who prefer paper
- ❑ Total Population Counts only – no demographic numbers
- ❑ Available in English and Spanish

Surprise 2023 Redistricting Public Participation Kit

An online version of this map that allows you to zoom in and out for more detail is available as a link from the City website.

Each number indicates the total population of that “population unit” area. Each district must have essentially equal population. The population of each of the 6 districts must be close to 23,858, with no more than a 2,385 difference between the largest and smallest.

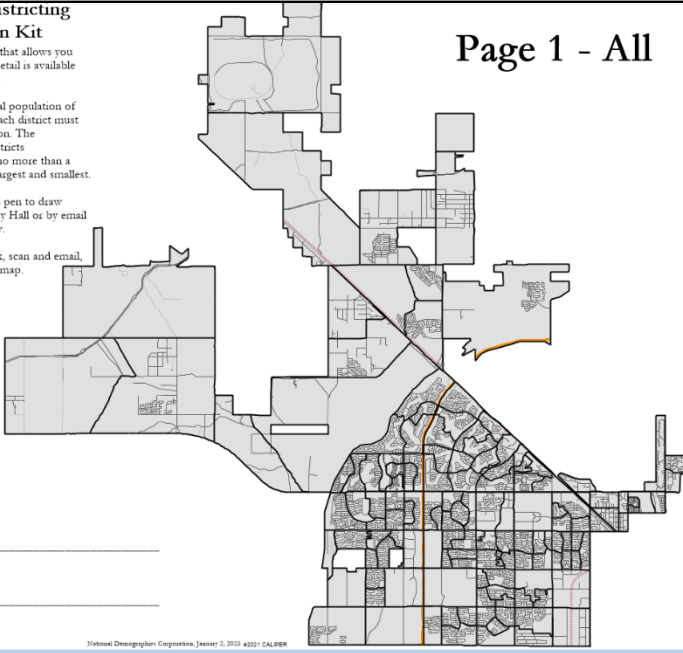
Please use a thick dark-colored pen to draw your map, then submit it at City Hall or by email to redistricting@surpriseaz.gov.

You can hand-deliver, mail, fax, scan and email, or photograph and email your map.

Page 1 - All

Name: _____

Phone and/or email: _____



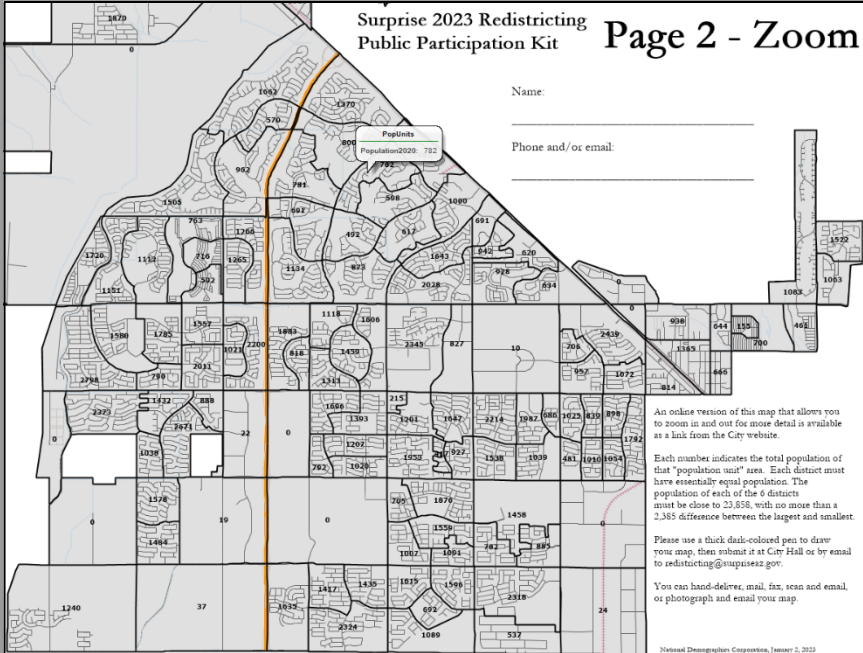
National Demographic Corporation, January 2, 2023 #2021 CALPER

Surprise 2023 Redistricting Public Participation Kit

Page 2 - Zoom

Name: _____

Phone and/or email: _____



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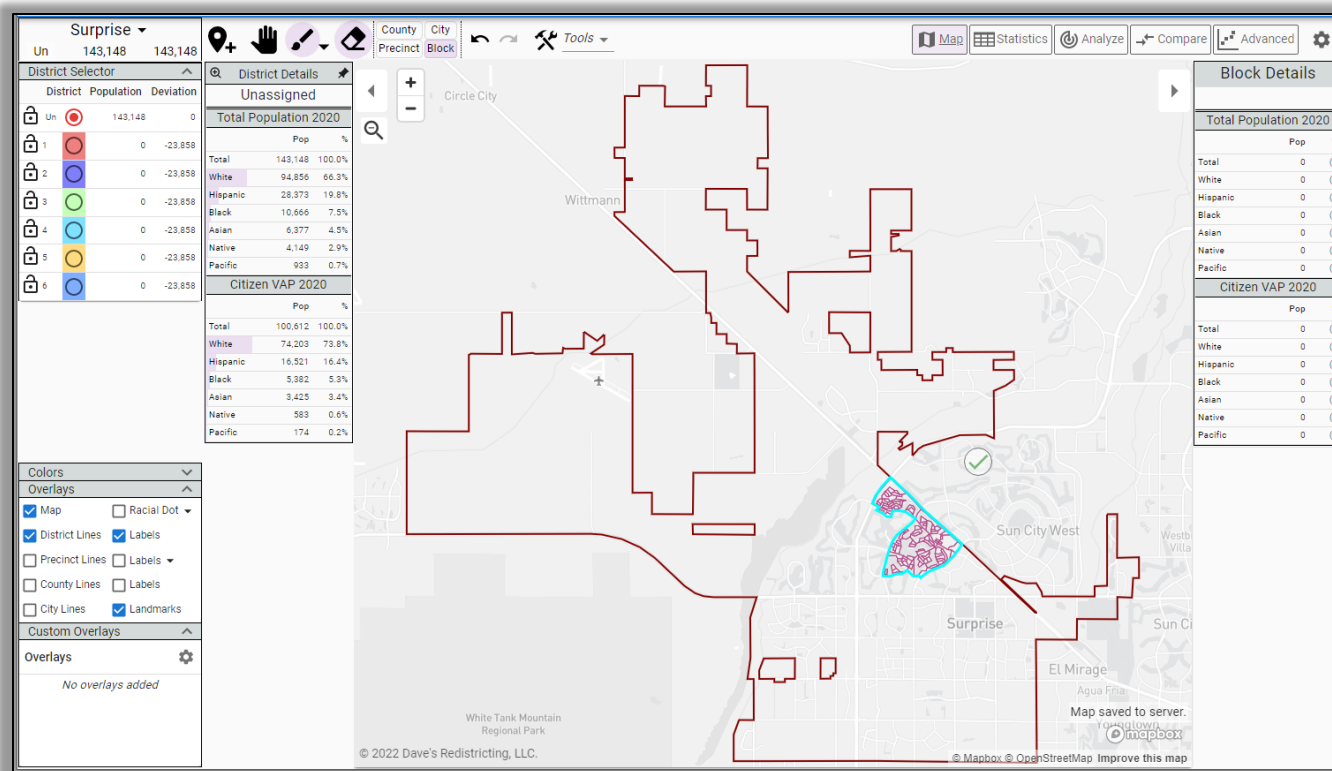
You can hand-deliver, mail, fax, scan and email, or photograph and email your map.

National Demographic Corporation, January 2, 2023

Dave's Redistricting App (DRA)

Draw Your Community of Interest or a Full District Map

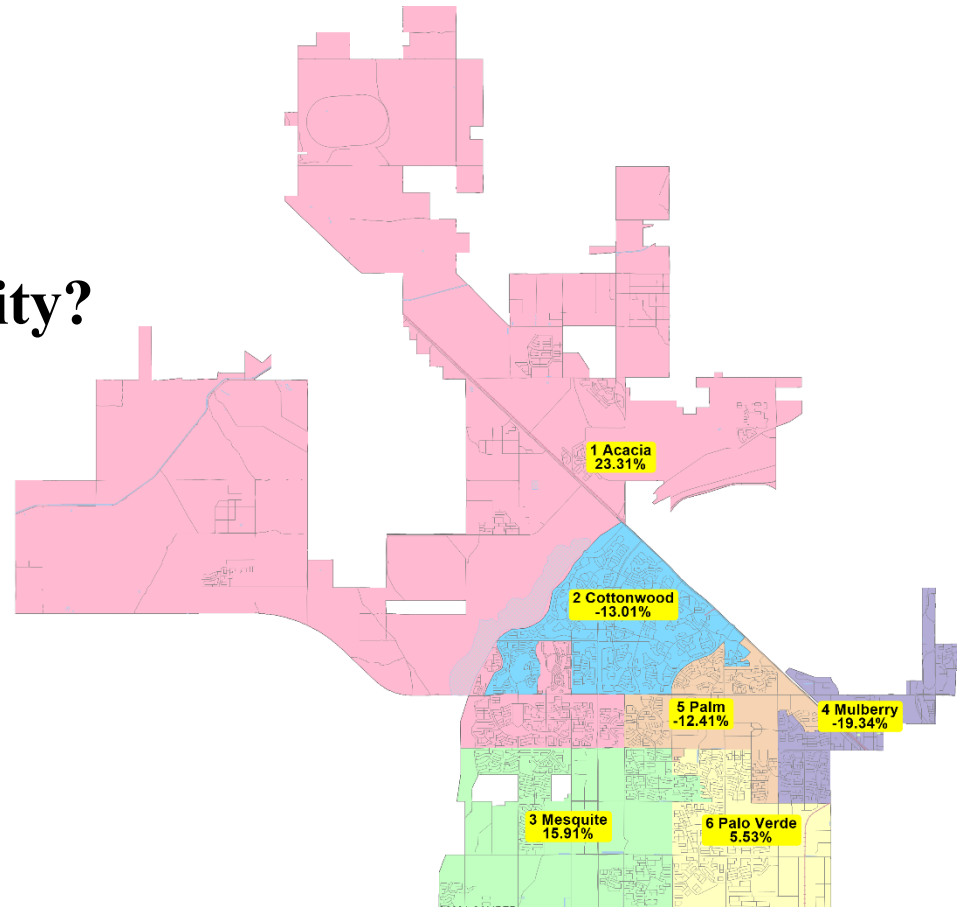
- Both simple and in-depth “How to” videos available online
- When finished, simply email in a link to your map and publish your map



Discussion

**Focus on making only the population-required shifts?
Or undertake a larger-scale revisiting of the district configurations?**

**How to define neighborhoods &
communities of interest in the City?**



Public Contacts and Website

Website

surpriseaz.gov/redistricting

Phone

623-222-3000

Email

redistricting@surpriseaz.gov