

Redistricting Proposal 1



# PROVIDENCE

CITY COUNCIL

## Committee on Ward Boundaries Final Report

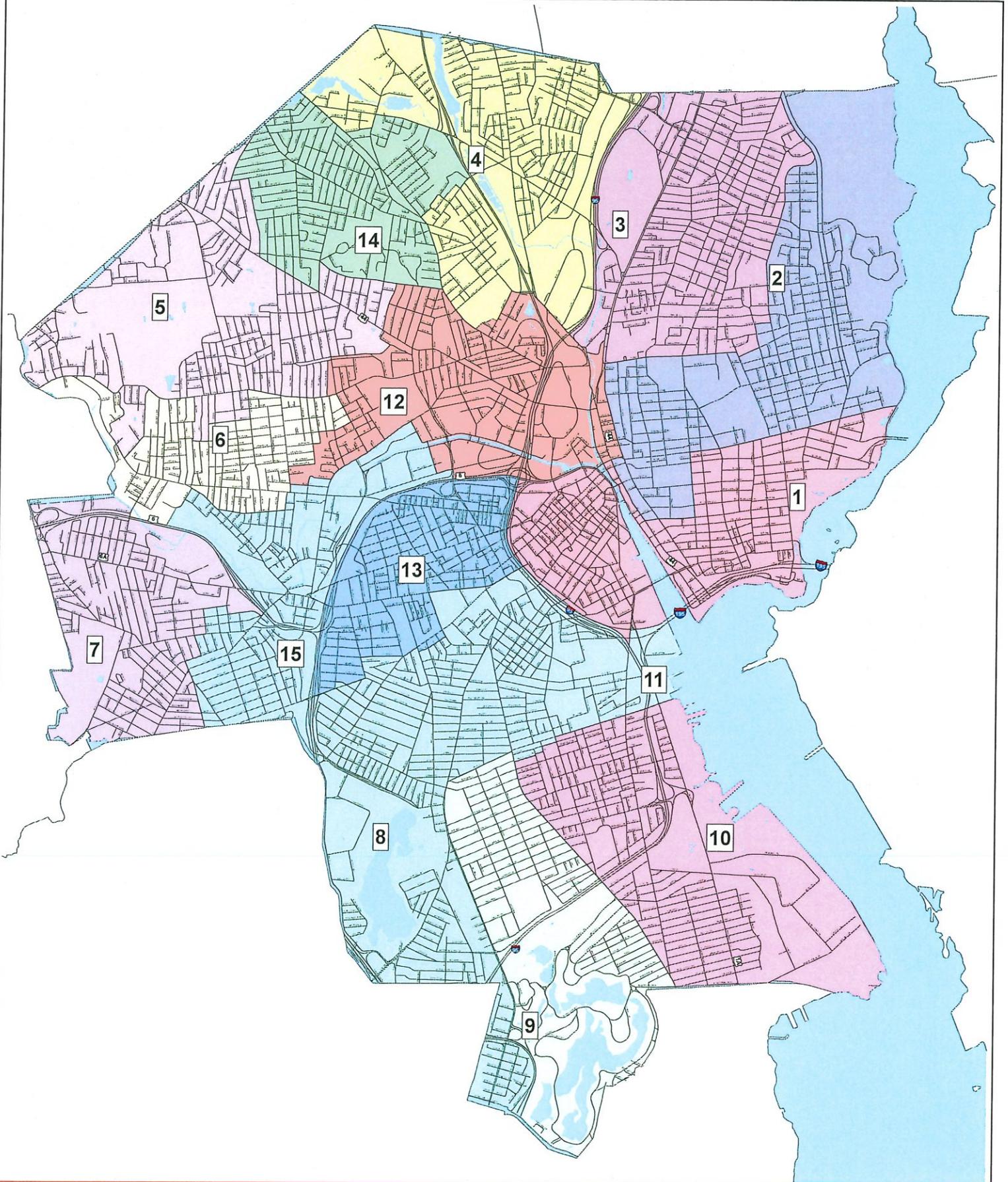
# 2021-2022

IN CITY COUNCIL  
MAR 14 2022

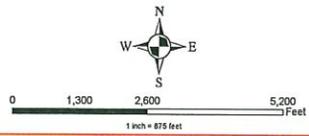
READ  
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

*Tina L. Mastroscurri* CLERK  
ACTING

# EXISTING WARD BOUNDARIES



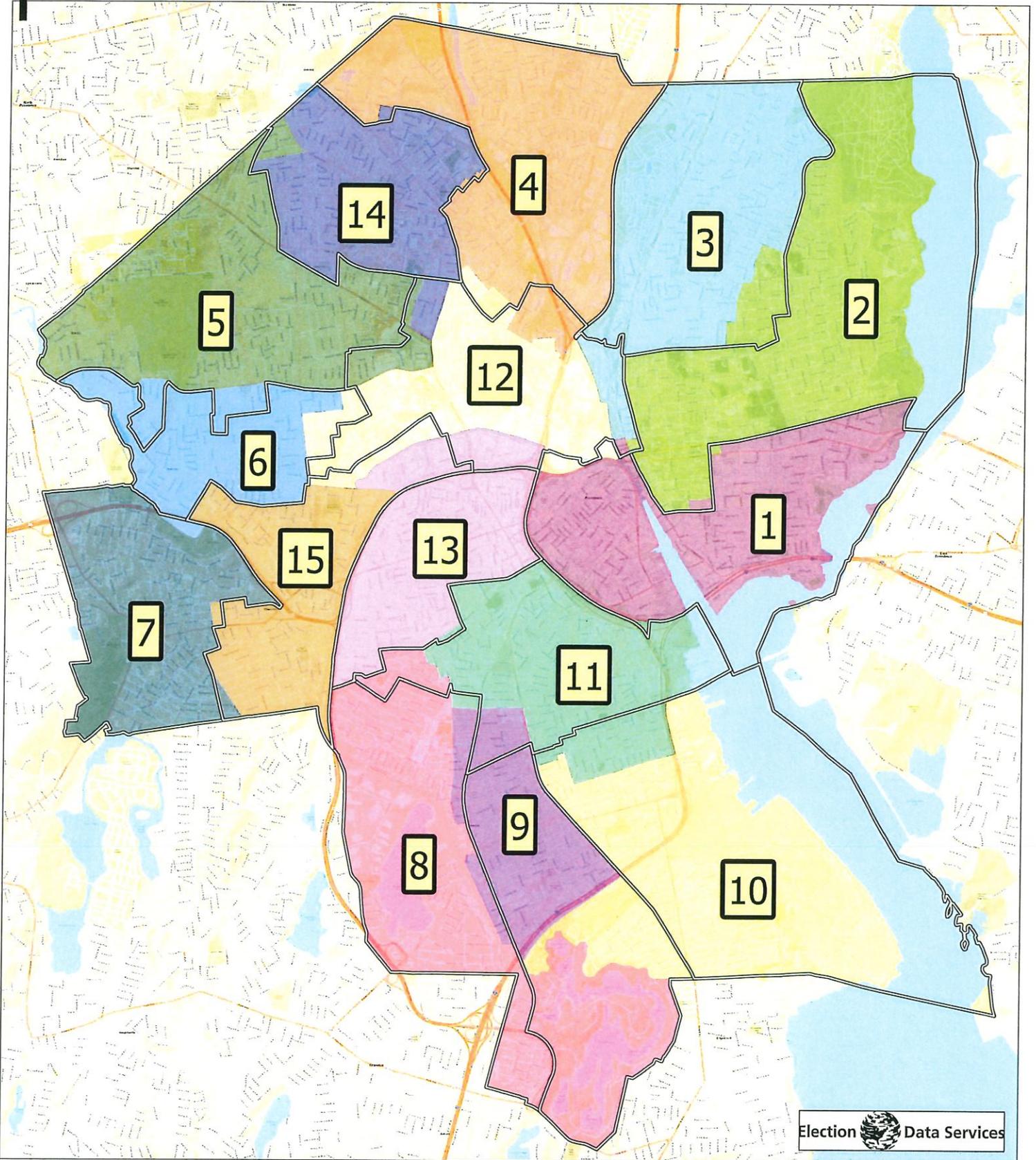
The information depicted on this map is for planning purposes only. It is not adequate for legal boundary definition, regulatory interpretation, or parcel-level analysis.  
 Produced by the Providence Planning and Development GIS Lab  
 403 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903  
 Data Sources:  
 Providence Geographic Information System  
 Date: 4/30/2015  
 File: H:\GIS\Projects\GIS\MapServer\MapServer\MapServer\_150115.mxd



**P** **WARD BOUNDARIES**  
 PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND  
 PROVIDENCE THE CREATIVE CAPITAL  
 DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
JAMES B. BROWN, MAYOR | EUGENE W. WARDEN, CITY CLERK

# Providence Wards and Boundary Committee Redistricting Committee Final

4



Election  Data Services

DISTRICT	Adjusted Population Tabulation				Original Population Tabulation				Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Total Population					Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Voting Population				
	Pop	Change	% Change	Precincts	Pop	Change	% Change	Precincts	Black	Hispanic	NH Asian	Minority	Black	Hispanic	NH Asian	Minority		
1	13,369	12,754	4.82%	635	13,363	12,729	4.90%	634	58.56%	5.87%	17.21%	11.44%	41.64%	54.89%	5.42%	14.18%	11.02%	44.81%
2	13,357	12,754	4.73%	603	13,357	12,729	4.93%	628	68.99%	3.66%	12.65%	8.31%	31.02%	68.72%	3.87%	13.52%	8.26%	31.28%
3	13,377	12,754	4.89%	623	13,361	12,729	4.97%	632	64.78%	8.57%	6.50%	10.82%	35.22%	66.76%	8.83%	6.90%	9.49%	33.24%
4	13,273	12,754	3.77%	481	13,235	12,729	3.81%	494	27.96%	17.76%	2.62%	43.04%	72.04%	83.87%	17.00%	2.56%	38.63%	66.13%
5	13,262	12,754	0.00%	8	13,246	12,729	0.13%	17	48.43%	11.93%	2.42%	10.68%	51.57%	53.61%	11.67%	2.40%	26.78%	46.39%
6	13,214	12,754	3.96%	430	13,206	12,729	4.07%	433	14.56%	14.84%	3.41%	43.29%	83.44%	17.97%	14.89%	3.71%	59.01%	82.40%
7	13,206	12,754	3.54%	452	13,175	12,729	3.50%	446	14.05%	8.82%	3.41%	48.79%	83.56%	36.84%	8.66%	3.22%	66.97%	83.60%
8	13,218	12,754	0.58%	74	13,292	12,729	0.50%	63	11.64%	10.91%	10.13%	63.93%	88.39%	13.54%	11.01%	10.74%	60.74%	86.60%
9	13,193	12,754	4.40%	451	13,203	12,729	4.36%	451	10.60%	12.99%	4.72%	67.44%	89.42%	13.01%	12.89%	4.76%	66.30%	87.99%
10	13,203	12,754	3.54%	451	13,271	12,729	3.60%	459	16.41%	15.29%	3.02%	59.07%	83.59%	18.00%	16.18%	3.11%	56.07%	81.10%
11	13,229	12,754	4.12%	505	13,284	12,729	4.28%	545	13.12%	20.08%	3.41%	58.39%	87.82%	14.51%	20.50%	3.71%	55.45%	85.49%
12	13,009	12,754	2.10%	375	13,001	12,729	2.14%	372	25.47%	14.37%	7.70%	46.44%	74.53%	29.53%	13.77%	8.65%	43.06%	70.38%
13	13,430	12,754	5.84%	314	13,416	12,729	5.84%	315	47.38%	8.34%	5.69%	21.66%	53.62%	31.60%	8.22%	5.81%	29.33%	48.60%
14	13,389	12,754	4.88%	635	13,362	12,729	4.91%	633	46.09%	15.60%	2.76%	28.45%	53.92%	52.66%	13.94%	2.51%	25.77%	47.14%



Total Deviation - 9.92%  
 Hispanic VAP Majority Wards - 7  
 Hispanic VAP Plurality Wards - 2  
 Largest NH Black Ward - 11 (20.5%)  
 Minimum # of Precincts - 76  
 Data Published - March 4, 2022

## Introduction

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Pursuant to Section 204 of the Providence Home Rule Charter, the City Council appointed the Committee on Ward Boundaries in January of 2021. The Committee on Ward Boundaries is appointed once every ten years and is tasked with the responsibility of proposing a plan for the establishment of the City's Wards based on the updated census data. The purpose of this process is to maintain equal representation for all members of the Providence community. The Committee was comprised of the following members:

- Jessica Cigna, Chair and Public Member
- Nicholas Narducci, Vice Chair and Councilor
- Nick Freeman, Public Member
- Mary Kay Harris, Councilor
- Rachel Miller, Councilor

This marked the first time in the City's history that the Committee on Ward Boundaries was chaired by a member of the public and not an elected official. Despite dealing with delayed Census data, a forced transition to virtual public meetings, and a limited timeframe to complete their work, the Committee on Ward Boundaries was able to conduct a transparent process centered on community feedback.

## Criteria Employed in the Process

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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the US Census Bureau was delayed in processing and releasing the 2020 Census results. Although the final data was not released until several months after their appointments, the Committee on Ward Boundaries took advantage of the delay to arrange presentations regarding the redistricting process and outlined the core principles they would employ to guide their work. Section 204 of the Charter requires that the committee ensure that the ward boundaries are drawn in accordance with the following criteria:

1. Equality of ward populations so far as practicable;
2. Contiguousness of the territory of each ward;
3. Wards shall comply with the federal Voting Rights Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 1971 and following);
4. The geographic integrity of any local neighborhood, or local community of interest, shall be respected in a manner that minimizes their division to the extent possible without violating the requirements of any of the preceding subdivisions;
5. To the extent practicable, and where this does not conflict with the criteria above, wards shall be drawn to encourage geographical compactness such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for more distant population; and
6. The place of residence of any incumbent or political candidate shall not be considered in the creation of a map. Districts shall not be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against an incumbent, political candidate, or political party.

In discussing the Charter's requirements, the committee decided that they needed to expand on the requirements by adopting additional guiding principles for their work. The entirety of the

Committee's guiding principles document is attached hereto as Exhibit A, however the additional guiding principles were as follows:

- The Ward Boundary Committee, its liaisons to city council, and any hired consultants shall conduct its work in open public meetings in accordance with the State of Rhode Island's Open Meetings Act.
- The Ward Boundary Committee shall engage the public and solicit responses pertinent to the ward boundary drawing process. Information and data gathered from the public shall be used to inform the ward boundary drawing decisions of the committee.
- The Ward Boundary Committee will commit to engaging the public and soliciting responses in a manner that enables as many to participate as possible and in ways engaging for them. There will be multiple ways in which to submit information to the committee including but not limited to paper and electronic copies of materials, as well as in person public meetings (when allowable) and electronic options for participation.
- The Ward Boundary Committee will review all materials presented by any hired consultants.
- The Ward Boundary Committee will require hired consultants to present information to the committee in a manner that will be easily accessible to the committee and to the public. This includes web-based, interactive maps, that can easily enable the committee and public to see individual properties and lines closely. These maps should be able to be increased and decreased in extent and scale.
- The Ward Boundary Committee will require the consultant to prepare and share a final shapefile of updated ward boundaries as well as a final text file with population data associated with each new ward.
- The Ward Boundary Committee shall not intentionally benefit any political party, faction, candidate, or cause over any others. Neither the addresses of political candidates nor political party affiliation of residents shall be used or discussed at any point in the work of the committee.
- To the extent practicable, each ward shall include at least one building suitable for use as a polling place. Such suitable buildings shall include, but are not limited to, public schools, public libraries, firehouses, recreation centers, houses of worship, and community centers.
- To the extent practicable, each ward shall include at least one public building suitable for holding neighborhood meetings, community conversations, or other types of civic participation around issues of local interest. Such suitable public buildings shall include, but are not limited to, public schools, public libraries, and recreation centers.
- While the committee shall use the current existing ward boundaries as a starting point, the committee shall also utilize previous decades' ward boundaries and data on population and demographic shifts over time, as well as forward-looking data on Providence's population and demographic estimates to inform the drawing of new, updated ward boundaries.

It is also important to note that the Committee Chair, Jessica Cigna was in all meetings with the city councilors that chose to engage with the committee and the committee's hired consultants, EDS. All councilors except for Councilwoman LaFortune and Councilman Narducci scheduled meetings with Chair Cigna and the consultants from EDS, and while the two Councilors did not meet individually with the Chair and the consultants, they did speak at the committee's Public Hearings.

These meetings with councilors were for information gathering purposes only as councilors listen to the feedback from their constituents and have a direct understanding of which community spaces and buildings are important to their constituents. No information as to councilor's home addresses or that of any other political candidates was ever discussed in these meetings.

No meetings were allowed between City Council members and the committee's hired consultants without one of the non-elected committee members, namely Jessica Cigna or Nicholas Freeman, present for such a meeting.

### Procedure

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The bulk of the Ward Boundary Committee's work began in early January of 2022 with the hiring of Election Data Services (EDS) as the consulting firm tasked with assisting in the redistricting process. Election Data Services was also the same consultant who was employed by the State of Rhode Island for the State's redistricting process. In addition to hiring EDS, the committee also worked closely with the City Council office to update the City Council website so that the committee had a dedicated webpage to share information and documents of interest with the public.

Throughout the month of February 2022, the committee conducted four public hearings at different locations throughout the City in order to engage as much public input as possible regarding the current and future composition of the City's wards. In an effort to maximize public awareness and transparency, the public hearings were livestreamed on Zoom and the City Council's YouTube channel. The first four public hearings were hosted at the following locations:

- February 7, 2022 – Providence Career and Technical Academy
- February 14, 2022 – Silver Lake Community Center
- February 22, 2022 – Nathan Bishop School
- February 28, 2022 – The DaVinci Center

Prior to the February 22<sup>nd</sup> public hearing, EDS provided the committee with four draft maps to show possible variations of what the Wards could look like. The four maps ranged from least amount of change (Ward Redistricting Proposal A) to the most amount of change (Ward Redistricting Proposal D). The Four initial maps are attached hereto as Exhibits B through E.

Although the Home Rule Charter only requires four public hearings, in an effort to provide as much opportunity for input as possible the committee also held an additional fully virtual public hearing on March 2, 2022. Immediately following the March 2<sup>nd</sup> public hearing, EDS provided

two additional maps titled Redistricting Proposal 1 and Redistricting Proposal 2, Exhibits F and G respectively, that addressed the bulk of the public testimony received to that point.

On Monday, March 7, 2022 the committee met for the final time to take public comment and then ultimately voted on their final recommended ward boundary map. In response to the comments received during the public comment phase of the meeting, the committee unanimously decided that a modified version of Redistricting Proposal 2 would be the best composition of the City’s wards to address the will of the numerous community members who had participated during the process. The Final Ward Map is produced in full at the outset of this Report.

### Analysis of 2020 Census Data

As of the 2020 Census, Providence’s population grew by 12,892 for a total population of 190,934. For the purposes of redistricting, the Committee used the population total of 191,309 which includes 375 persons who were originally counted at the Adult Correctional Institution (ACI) in Cranston on Census day, April 1 2020, for an updated population growth of 13,267. The State’s Redistricting Committee removed these persons from the Cranston population count and moved them to the census blocks they lived in prior to going to the ACI. The Providence Ward Boundaries Committee committed to using the updated figures.

While population growth was not equal across the city, the latest Census figures found that each ward saw population growth and no ward lost population from 2010. The growth ranged from an increase of 199 people in Ward 3 for a total population of 12,189 to an increase of 3,434 people in Ward 12 for a population total of 15,138. The table below outlines the population growth in each ward.

Ward	2010 Population	2020 Population including 375 moved from ACI	Pop Growth	% Growth
01	12,387	12,877	490	4.0%
02	12,452	12,898	446	3.6%
03	11,990	12,189	199	1.7%
04	11,619	12,401	782	6.7%
05	11,646	12,634	988	8.5%
06	11,902	12,718	816	6.9%
07	11,917	13,104	1,187	10.0%
08	11,877	12,328	451	3.8%
09	11,370	11,920	550	4.8%
10	11,982	12,260	278	2.3%

11	11,822	12,995	1,173	9.9%
12	11,704	15,138	3,434	29.3%
13	11,533	11,895	362	3.1%
14	11,786	12,478	692	5.9%
15	12,055	13,474	1,419	11.8%
<b>City Total</b>	<b>178,042</b>	<b>191,309</b>	<b>13,267</b>	<b>7.5%</b>

The redistricting principle of equality states that each ward should have roughly the same number of persons or an ‘ideal population’. The ideal population in Providence was determined to be 12,754. To get this figure we divided the total population by the number of wards: adjusted population of 191,309 divided by 15.

Using 2020 data in the current ward boundaries, we saw a range of deviations from the ideal population. Six wards (1,2,7,11,12,15) had population totals that placed them higher than the ideal population. For example, Ward 12 has a population total of 15,138 which meant that it had 2,384 more persons than the ideal population of 12,754. Nine wards (3,4,5,6,8,9,10,13,14) had population totals that placed them below the ideal population. For example, Ward 13 had a population of 11,895 which meant it had 859 fewer persons than the ideal population of 12,754.

One of the six redistricting criteria listed in the Home Rule Charter is to ensure that wards are as equal in population as possible. Courts have generally accepted as much as 5% population deviation among districts, whether the district has fewer or greater persons from the ideal population. The Committee discussed this and agreed to have no more than a 5% deviation, whether negative or positive, from the ideal population. It is also important to note that the equality criteria is one of six criteria that the committee used to redraw the ward boundaries. The table below shows the 2020 population counts in each ward and the deviation from the ideal population.

<b>Ward</b>	<b>2020 Population including 375 moved from ACI</b>	<b><i>Ideal Population</i></b>	<b><i>Raw Deviation</i></b>	<b><i>% Deviation</i></b>
01	12,877	12,754	123	1.0%
02	12,898	12,754	144	1.1%
03	12,189	12,754	(565)	-4.4%
04	12,401	12,754	(353)	-2.8%

05	12,634	12,754	(120)	-0.9%
06	12,718	12,754	(36)	-0.3%
07	13,104	12,754	350	2.7%
08	12,328	12,754	(426)	-3.3%
09	11,920	12,754	(834)	-6.5%
10	12,260	12,754	(494)	-3.9%
11	12,995	12,754	241	1.9%
12	15,138	12,754	2,384	18.7%
13	11,895	12,754	(859)	-6.7%
14	12,478	12,754	(276)	-2.2%
15	13,474	12,754	720	5.6%
<b>City Total</b>	<b>191,309</b>			

Based on the deviations shown in the above table, it became clear that at a minimum Wards 12 and 15 would need to shrink in total population while Wards 9 and 13 would be required to increase in total population.

#### Explanation and Analysis of Decisions Made

The four initial maps (Exhibits B through E) presented by EDS gave the committee and public an opportunity to see the range of possibilities for reconfiguration of the wards in compliance with the Charter redistricting criteria. These maps sparked lively debate within the Providence community about the future of the City's Wards and elicited constructive feedback and testimony from the public.

Based on the testimony centered on the initial four maps, EDS presented two additional maps (exhibits F and G) to the committee and the public for consideration.

In the committee's final meeting on March 7, 2022, and in response to the feedback received at that meeting, the committee decided to proceed with modifying Map 2 (Exhibit G) to carry over some of the aspects that it liked from Map 1 (Exhibit F). This was done in consultation with EDS who were present and able to use their redistricting software in real time at the meeting to show the committee what was possible based on its discussion.

A consensus in the committee coalesced around a hybrid map, largely based on Map 2 with a change to make Ward 6's boundaries similar to Map 1. The following is a ward by ward

breakdown of the decisions made by the committee in constructing each ward, including the percentage remaining in the ward and of those brought in from neighboring wards

Ward 1

Ward 1 was within the acceptable range of population deviation but due to its proximity to Wards that needed to gain population or cede population, the committee determined there may be necessity to change the Ward’s current boundaries. Therefore, in the initial maps presented to the committee two maps showed downtown solely in Ward 1 while two had downtown split between Ward 1 and Ward 13 as Ward 13 was below the acceptable population deviation and needed to gain population.

Several committee members felt that it was not the best option to split the downtown area into two wards but there were limited options for what could be done with the area based on abutting ward’s needs.

After the initial maps were published, numerous persons testified in opposition to the splitting of downtown between Ward 1 and Ward 13. Although there was initial opposition to the proposal, maintaining downtown wholly within Ward 1 had automatic effects for Wards 2, 3, 12, 13, and 15 which was why the committee retained the idea of sharing some of the downtown neighborhood between Wards 13 and 1 in the subsequent Map versions, Maps 1 and 2. The decision to carry the potential split forward to the newer maps was due to the importance for the committee to highlight these effects publicly and to discuss the limited options the committee had. Even if the splitting of Ward 1 was unpopular, the committee felt compelled to share this information so that the public could have insight into its decision-making process and could see the effect of the split led to benefits elsewhere in the city

Prior to the final committee meeting more public feedback was heard, including 13 emails, 11 of which were in favor of Map 2 which depicts most of Downtown in Ward 1. Based upon the large volume of public testimony received, the committee ultimately decided to keep downtown whole in favor of having Ward 13 shift into Ward 12 instead. The committee determined that this was a better option for the residents of downtown, who feel that their community is a growing and distinct neighborhood in Providence's historic city center, and selected a map that respects this public testimony. The final Committee map keeps this burgeoning neighborhood and community of interest largely together, following the man-made boundaries of I-95 and I-195 in the southern section of the Ward.

Breakdown of Ward 1 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
1	12,807	95.8%
2	423	3.2%
12	139	1%

Ward 2

Ward 2 was within the acceptable population deviation but was affected due to required changes in Wards 12 and 13 that pushed population changes in Wards 1, 2, and 3. Ward 12 stretched across the center of the city into the base of the East Side where Councilors in Ward 2 and Ward 12 split the boundary of Benefit Street. Both Councilors, along with testimony received from community members, agreed that Benefit Street residents would be better served entirely by Ward 2. While this seemed a possible change, it inadvertently highlighted a few challenging data issues:

1. The population in Providence between I-95 and the boundary with East Providence, save for Waterplace residential buildings adjacent to the Amtrak station and State House, was 40,103. This is only 70 residents less than the maximum allowable population size for the totality of Wards 1, 2, and 3 (13,391 \* 3). The normal 10% deviation flexibility that can be utilized to keep districts compact and communities of interest whole was not existing in the east side of the city under the decisions to keep Ward 13 from entering Downtown alongside having Ward 12 vacate College Hill.

2. The largest population block in the state at 1,374, was located in the Ward 12 side of Benefit St, bordering Ward 2. Given an abnormally large census block straddling these Wards, the options to bring the northern section of Benefit Street wholly into Ward 2 were limited and had effects that were unfavorable to the committee, the councilors and to the public as heard by in testimony and feedback. If Ward 2 was to receive the blocks that were in Ward 12, then either Ward 1 (Downtown) would need to be split or Ward 2 would have to cede population to Ward 3 along Blackstone Blvd. Neither option was ideal or welcomed. To be further explained in the Ward 3 section, a decision was made to instead bring the north western section of Benefit Street into Ward 3. This meant that to keep population within acceptable ranges, a small group of census blocks were ceded to Ward 2 from Ward 3 within the streets of Savoy, Taft, Morris, Boylston. This decision meant that Ward 2 would gain the Brown University Stadium and Nathan Bishop Middle School. Feedback from councilors at the final committee meeting suggested that this was not favorable. The committee ultimately decided that they were not change that decision and acknowledged that the City Council can work with the consultants after the map leaves committee. Breakdown of Ward 2 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
2	12,475	93.4%
3	780	5.8%
1	70	0.5%
12	32	0.2%

### Ward 3

Ward 3 was within the acceptable range of population deviation, but was close to being under populated. This meant that when changing its borders to align with state districts, and/or when taking into account public testimony and feedback, the committee had to be cautious in keeping the district within acceptable ranges. This posed a challenge because potential changes to Wards

12 and 13 had ripple effects in Wards 1, 2, and 3. After seeing some of these possibilities in Maps A through D, seeing the consequences of splitting the Downtown area between two Wards, and hearing public feedback about Ward 3 remaining focused on the Mt. Hope Neighborhood, the committee decided to largely keep the changes presented in Map 2. This meant that the Ward remained Mt. Hope Neighborhood focused and did not cross over on into the Blackstone neighborhood. Keeping the Ward’s western boundaries largely the same meant that the Non-Hispanic Black population was not reduced in this district, as requested by the public testimony and as was important to the committee to maintain this Community of Interest. The only item left unanswered with Ward 3 is the loss of Nathan Bishop Middle School to Ward 2 which the Committee acknowledged in its final vote as necessitating further revision by the City Council prior to final passage.

Breakdown of Ward 3 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
3	11,409	85.3%
12	1,968	14.7%

Ward 4

Ward 4 was within the acceptable population deviation and so the population and boundaries did not have to largely change. Small changes were made to account for updated state congressional and Senate Districts. Due to the location of this Ward on the northern border of the city and bounded in the east by a major federal highway, it remained largely unaffected by changes made elsewhere in the Map which is why it had little alteration across the varying revisions considered by the committee. With that said, Ward 4 did gain population in a southerly direction as Ward 12 needed to shed population due to being over an acceptable population and this shift kept both Wards within the acceptable range of deviation without large disruptions to population or neighborhoods.

Breakdown of Ward 4 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
4	11,965	97.5%
12	232	1.9%
14	76	0.6%

Ward 5

Ward 5 was in the acceptable population deviation range and so large-scale change was not necessary for the Ward based on population. State Senate and House Boundaries weave through this Ward which meant that the committee had to account for pocket precincts when changing boundaries in this area. Therefore, boundaries in the northern section of the ward were updated

due to updated changes made to state senate districts. The southern boundary of the ward was made to border Chalkstone Ave and the census blocks with George West School were shifted to Ward 6. This alteration was in response to consistent public testimony and feedback which highlighted the need to include the school in the ward as it currently had no school building or community space within the ward’s boundaries. Ensuring that each Ward had a school, a polling location, or large community space in which a city councilor could host a meeting was also a prerogative of the committee codified in the values document adopted early in the committee's process. With this border change, the committee achieved this goal for every Ward in the city.

Breakdown of Ward 5 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
5	11,368	89.1%
12	1,105	8.7%
14	289	2.3%

Ward 6

The committee discussed the importance of ensuring that each ward had a location in which the community could gather or potentially use as a polling location. Based on testimony and feedback from several councilors and community members about the loss of a community center in the district from the past decade, the committee ultimately decided to use Chalkstone Ave as one of the northern borders of Ward 6 which included George West School and the accompanying park into Ward 6, moving it from current Ward 5. Ward 6 was within acceptable deviation of population and so its borders did not vary widely outside of the above change. The southern border shifted downward to account for changes in the state House district boundaries.

Breakdown of Ward 6 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
6	10,858	89.6%
5	1,266	10.4%

Ward 7

Ward 7 was within an acceptable deviation level for the new ideal population. Additionally, the ward is bounded by North Providence to the West and Cranston to the South making it a geographically compact area with limits in the direction in which it could move, similar to Ward 4. It also abuts Ward 6, another district within acceptable deviation population range and Ward 15 which needed to cede population as it was over the acceptable range of deviation. Therefore, population changes were only made with Ward 15 in the Silver Lake neighborhood and around Hartford Ave that ensured there were no pocket precincts remaining with the updated State House boundary.

Breakdown of Ward 7 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
7	12,912	97.8%
15	294	2.2%

Ward 8

Ward 8 was within the acceptable level of the new ideal population but changes due to the following factors, required growth in Ward 13 and Ward 9. Requests were made by community members in the southern Providence neighborhoods to bring fair representation to their communities, and the pocket precinct of voters surrounding Roger Williams park influenced changes in the boundaries of Ward 8. Some of the boundaries were updated to align with updated state district lines. In response to public testimony from residents in the South Elmwood neighborhood, who stated that their community has much common with the Reservoir Triangle neighborhood and other sections of Ward 8, the committee chose to keep this area in Ward 8, even though this required the ward to continue to cross the I-95 highway.

The Census blocks that include Roger Williams Park were brought into Ward 8 because of population needs and changes between Wards 8, 9, 10, & 11. The northern portion of Ward 8 was shifted further north as Ward 11 was shifted further east, to allow for a more compact Ward 11 and allow for more focused representation for South Providence neighborhoods

Breakdown of Ward 8 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
8	10,424	81.3%
11	2,121	16.5%
9	283	2.2%

Ward 9

Ward 9 was outside the acceptable range of population deviation and therefore needed to gain in population. The committee heard public testimony asking for historic neighborhoods to be made whole and to grow into areas near the northern section of current Ward 11. State Senate boundaries that follow I-95 provided a new natural southern border as seen in the Final Committee Map. This border does not create a pocket precinct, which keeping the current boundaries would have resulted in. Moreover, this change aligns with the Committee's value of respecting physical boundaries, such as highways and rivers. The new boundaries maintain a high percentage of Hispanic/Latino population, 67.4% and non-Hispanic Black at 12.99%. Even with a northern shift of this Ward, the new boundaries increased the population to 12,193 from 11,920 under the older boundaries. This new population total places it lower than the ideal population but within the acceptable deviation range of -4.4%.

Breakdown of Ward 9 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
9	8,982	73.7%
11	1,643	13.5%
8	1,568	12.9%

### Ward 10

Ward 10 started the process with a population slightly lower than the ideal population but still within the acceptable range of deviation - 3.9%. The committee's guiding principles of respecting neighborhood integrity as well as not crossing man-made boundaries such as highways contributed into the transformation of this ward. Testimony and feedback heard from the residents of South Providence asked for neighborhoods to be brought back together. The final Committee Map for Ward 10 makes the neighborhood of Washington Park whole, reflecting an important desire expressed in public testimony. The final map also aligns state district boundaries that coalesce in this section of the city so as to avoid small pocket precincts.

#### Breakdown of Ward 10 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
10	9,648	78.4%
9	2,655	21.6%

### Ward 11

Ward 11 started the process within the acceptable limits of population deviation. Due to its proximity to Wards that needed to change, feedback from the community and councilor, and learned historical context from the 2012 process, Ward 11 saw some changes in the final committee map that both reflect feedback received and results in a more compact ward. Ward 11's northern section was shifted east to remove some of the West End neighborhood. This was in response to Ward 13, 8, and 11 councilors who stated that residents in this area are often confused with who is their councilor. These three councilors have a good working relationship but by reducing the number of councilors in this area it allows Ward 11 to benefit in other ways. This shift makes Ward 11's non-Hispanic Black population 20.5%, the largest non-Hispanic Black population district in the city.

Ward 11 also gained a Boys and Girls club, a school, and for the first time has a Community Library within the boundaries of the Ward. Public comments were instrumental in the Committee's decisions for redrawing this Ward. Residents from the South Providence neighborhoods spoke about keeping their neighborhoods whole and making the boundaries and community more representative of the residents. The Ward's population in the Final Committee Map, 12,229, is within the acceptable range of deviation of -4.12%.

#### Breakdown of Ward 11 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
11	9,206	75.3%
10	2,612	21.4%
8	336	2.7%
13	75	0.6%

Ward 12

Ward 12 was outside the bounds of the acceptable population deviation, with an overage of 2,384, by far the largest deviation in the city. This meant that the ward needed to cede population and become smaller geographically. The committee had heard testimony that Ward 12 should shift westward, out of the East Side and more compactly within the Smith Hill Neighborhood. The committee also heard testimony that the northern section of Benefit Street should be in Ward 2 in its entirety instead of being in both 12 and 2. While this seemed a possible change, it inadvertently highlighted a challenging data issue presented by a single census block, between Ward 12 and Ward 2 as previously mentioned above.

This meant it was not possible to do a simple switch between the Wards as the movement of this one large block into Ward 2 would have necessitated significant shifts to Wards 1,2,3, and 13.

The committee also heard feedback seeking to place the Chad Brown, Sunset Village, and Admiral Terrace buildings of the Providence Housing Authority into Ward 12 as these residents consider themselves part of Smith Hill. While the consultant showed maps with those census blocks in Ward 12, ultimately this was not accepted by the committee as doing so created ripple effects of population shifts in other wards which would create more disruptions to more neighborhoods.

The committee did succeed in creating a map that shifted the focus of Ward 12 closer to the center of the city and out of the East Side. This shift meant that Ward 12 became a plurality Hispanic/Latino population ward, with a population of 46% Hispanic persons. This keeps in mind the Charter criteria of compactness as well as Communities of Interest.

Breakdown of Ward 12 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
12	10,075	77.3%
6	1,860	14.3%
15	769	5.9%
4	325	2.5%

Ward 13

Ward 13 was below the acceptable population deviation and needed to gain population in order to fall within the Equality principle of the Charter criteria. The options to gain population for this district were limited based on its central location, bounded by Freeways and Railroad Tracks,

and the requirements for some of its neighboring Wards also needing to cede population. The committee was presented with two options: to move Ward 13 across I-95 to split parts of Downtown with Ward 1 or to move into the area encompassed by Promenade, Kingsley and Harris Avenues crossing over Routes 6&10.

These options presented the Committee with conflicts to its own ideals of not crossing man-made boundaries and to keep neighborhoods whole. The committee also received conflicting public testimony asking for the Ward to not expand into the north or to expand into downtown.

In discussing the potential splitting of downtown, the committee considered the benefits of having two councilors with a voice in downtown, with twice as many votes and a way to bring more attention to a growing hospitality region in the city. Based on Maps A through D, the choices before the committee also had additional ripple effects throughout the eastern side of the city.

If Ward 1 were to be kept whole, to not split downtown between two councilors, then Ward 13 had to grow North, which put pressure on Wards 12, 2, and 3. This meant that it would be more difficult to remove Ward 12 from the East Side/Benefit Street. If that were to happen, then Ward 3 would have to grow into Ward 2 alongside Blackstone Blvd in order to keep the population within acceptable ranges. This area of growth for Ward 3 was not acceptable to the committee.

Ultimately, based on our committee's feelings of the ripple effects and the public's strong sentiment to keep downtown whole, the committee voted for the map that moved Ward 13 into the Promenade, Kingsley and Harris Avenue area, which we previously split between Wards 12 and 15. The committee felt that the nature of the population in that area, families and artists living in mill buildings was more similar to the current definition of Ward 13. Moreover, this change utilized the Woonasquatucket River as a natural and objective boundary between Wards 12 and 13.

#### Breakdown of Ward 13 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
13	11,820	95.1%
12	422	3.4%
15	163	1.3%
11	25	0.2%

#### Ward 14

Ward 14 was within the acceptable deviation for population and the committee therefore made minimal changes to the boundaries. The change in the top portion of the Ward, ceding blocks to Ward 5 is due to updated State Senate lines between Admiral Street and Texas Avenue. The

Ward gained some population that Ward 12 had to cede in the southern portion of the district, bringing in presumed Providence College-related residents to the Ward that contains the institution. Small changes between 4 and 14 were to maintain a balance of population and align with the newly enacted Congressional Boundary

Breakdown of Ward 14 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
14	12,113	90.5%
12	1,165	8.7%
4	111	0.8%

Ward 15

Ward 15 had a population that was greater than the acceptable deviation range of equality, meaning that it would need to cede population to surrounding Wards. Based on its location there were few options in which to transfer population. Ward 7 to its west did not need to gain population and is bounded by neighboring municipalities, as the same is true for Ward 6 to its north. Ward 13 to its east needed to gain population.

Natural boundaries of the Woonasquatucket River and man-made boundaries of Routes 6 and 10 as well as state districts meant that the most logical place to cede population was to Ward 13, in the vicinity of Atwells Ave which is one of the most traveled thoroughfares between the Wards

Breakdown of Ward 15 components in Committee Plan

Existing Ward	Population	% of District
15	12,248	98.5%
7	192	1.5%

Final Map Notes

The final committee map is within the acceptable range of deviation for ideal population using both the original census data figure of 12,729 and the updated 2020 Population including 375 moved from ACI. The consultant ensured that when drafting the boundaries both sets of population numbers were kept below the acceptable levels of deviation in conformity with redistricting best practices and legal precedent.

The committee had to ensure that any map presented to the City Council reduced the population in Wards 12 and 15 and increased population in Wards 9 and 13, keeping in line with the charter criteria of Equality of Population. Below is a table showing the final population totals, deviation from the ideal population, and demographics for each ward.

Ward	Adjusted Population Tabulation				Original Population Tabulation			
	Adjusted Population Tabulation	Ideal Population	Dev.	Difference	Original Population	Ideal Population	Dev.	Difference

1	13,369	12,754	4.82 %✓	615	13,363	12,729	4.98 %✓	634
2	13,357	12,754	4.73 %✓	603	13,357	12,729	4.93 %✓	628
3	13,377	12,754	4.89 %✓	623	13,361	12,729	4.97 %✓	632
4	12,273	12,754	- 3.77 %✓	-481	12,235	12,729	- 3.88 %✓	-494
5	12,762	12,754	0.06 %✓	8	12,746	12,729	0.13 %✓	17
6	12,124	12,754	- 4.94 %✓	-630	12,096	12,729	- 4.97 %✓	-633
7	13,206	12,754	3.54 %✓	452	13,175	12,729	3.50 %✓	446
8	12,828	12,754	0.58 %✓	74	12,792	12,729	0.50 %✓	63
9	12,193	12,754	- 4.40 %✓	-561	12,170	12,729	- 4.39 %✓	-559
10	12,303	12,754	- 3.54 %✓	-451	12,271	12,729	- 3.60 %✓	-458
11	12,229	12,754	- 4.12 %✓	-525	12,184	12,729	- 4.28 %✓	-545
12	13,029	12,754	2.16 %✓	275	13,001	12,729	2.14 %✓	272
13	12,430	12,754	- 2.54 %✓	-324	12,416	12,729	- 2.46 %✓	-313

14	13,389	12,754	4.98 %✓	635	13,362	12,729	4.97 %✓	633
15	12,440	12,754	- 2.46 %✓	-314	12,405	12,729	- 2.54 %✓	-324

Ward	Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Total Population					Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Voting Population				
	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Persons of Color	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Persons of Color
1	58.56%	5.83%	17.21%	11.44%	41.44%	58.99%	5.42%	18.26%	11.02%	41.01%
2	68.99%	3.66%	12.65%	8.31%	31.01%	68.72%	3.87%	13.53%	8.36%	31.28%
3	64.78%	8.57%	6.50%	10.82%	35.22%	66.76%	8.63%	6.90%	9.49%	33.24%
4	27.96%	17.76%	2.62%	43.04%	72.04%	33.87%	17.00%	2.56%	38.63%	66.13%
5	48.43%	11.93%	2.42%	30.68%	51.57%	53.61%	11.67%	2.40%	26.76%	46.39%
6	14.56%	14.84%	3.44%	62.28%	85.44%	17.57%	14.95%	3.75%	59.01%	82.40%
7	14.06%	8.82%	3.44%	69.79%	85.94%	16.94%	8.69%	3.72%	66.97%	83.06%
8	11.61%	10.91%	10.17%	63.23%	88.39%	13.54%	11.01%	10.76%	60.74%	86.46%
9	10.60%	12.99%	4.72%	67.44%	89.40%	12.01%	12.99%	4.76%	66.30%	87.99%
10	16.41%	15.29%	3.02%	59.07%	83.59%	18.90%	16.18%	3.11%	56.07%	81.10%

<b>11</b>	12.18%	20.08 %	3.41%	58.30%	87.82%	14.51 %	20.50 %	3.71%	55.45%	85.49%
<b>12</b>	25.47%	14.37 %	7.70%	46.44%	74.53%	29.53 %	13.77 %	8.65%	43.06%	70.38%
<b>13</b>	47.38%	8.34%	5.68%	32.86%	52.62%	51.60 %	8.22%	5.91%	29.33%	48.40%
<b>14</b>	46.09%	15.60 %	2.26%	29.49%	53.91%	52.66 %	13.98 %	2.35%	25.27%	47.34%
<b>15</b>	11.04%	9.47%	2.62%	73.06%	88.96%	13.07 %	9.23%	2.62%	71.55%	86.93%

The prescribed changes based on the equality principle for Wards 12, 15, 9 and 13 meant that many of the other Ward's boundaries also had to change. The committee followed the other charter criteria as well as its own guiding principles to oversee the redrawing of these lines.

In the Committee's Final Map Ward 12's population was 13,029. This puts the ward within the acceptable range of deviation of 2.16% above the ideal population of 12,754.

The population of Ward 15 in the Final Committee map was 12,440, slightly lower than the ideal population total at -2.46% but still within the acceptable range of deviation from ideal.

Ward 9's new boundaries increase the population to 12,193 from 11,920 under the older boundaries. This new population total places it lower than the ideal population but within the acceptable deviation range of -4.4%.

The population for Ward 13 in the Committee's final map is 12430, which is population growth and is within the acceptable range of deviation at -2.54%.

### Recommendations

In 2010 the Providence Home Rule Charter was amended in an attempt to drive a more open, transparent, and community driven process for the redrawing of the City's Ward Boundaries. This committee took that responsibility to heart and made every effort to ensure that the public was kept informed and able to participate throughout this process. While the committee is proud of the work that was done during this year's process, there are several recommendations that the committee wishes to make in order to have a smoother process in the future.

- In the year prior to redistricting, the City Council should work with other State and City Officials to ensure an accurate Census Count through the Complete Count Committee and ensure that city residents feel welcomed to participate in the Census, as well as be recruited as hired enumerators that can act as trained representatives of the census in their neighborhoods

- The City Council could ask the Complete Count Committee to continue its work after the Census has completed in order to explain why the Census and Redistricting are intricately connected and to engage residents to participate in the Redistricting process.
- The City Council and the City Planning Department should encourage the state to participate in various census programs, for example, the block boundary suggestion program where jurisdictions can review and reconfigure census blocks that caused problems in the 2020 Census.
- The City Council should continue the precedent set by this committee and commit to including public, non-elected members on its Ward Boundaries Committee.
- The Committee should engage with City Councilors to host community meetings in each Ward to explain the process early, prior to the data release, perhaps working with Complete Count Committee or other trusted community voices.
- The Committee should seek allies in the community to help educate hard-to-reach populations about the importance of participation in the redistricting process.
- The Committee should be enabled to redraw its maps prior to the state beginning its redrawing process. This would create more time to perform the redistricting process and may give more opportunity to reconnect neighborhoods and pieces of Wards as state district lines would not necessarily need to be a considered factor.

### Conclusion

This report concludes the work of the Committee on Ward Boundaries that has been ongoing for more than a year. The process of redistricting is an immensely challenging and time-consuming endeavor in any setting and for this committee to have conducted its work during the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the committee members, city staff, and City Council members. It can also not be stressed enough how important the public's participation was in driving the work of the committee.

All of the maps discussed in this report can also be found electronically by visiting the City Council's website located at <https://council.providenceri.gov/ward-boundaries/>

# EXHIBIT A

The Providence Committee on Ward Boundaries is governed by Article II, Sec. 204 (c), of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence, Rhode Island which includes criteria to be used to draw ward boundaries.

*The committee on ward boundaries (WBC) and the city council shall insure that said boundaries are drawn in accordance with the following criteria*

- (1) *Equality of ward populations so far as practicable;*
- (2) *Contiguosness of the territory of each ward;*
- (3) *Wards shall comply with the federal Voting Rights Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 1971 and following).*
- (4) *The geographic integrity of any local neighborhood, or local community of interest, shall be respected in a manner that minimizes their division to the extent possible without violating the requirements of any of the preceding subdivisions. A community of interest is a contiguous population which shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single ward for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Examples of such shared interests are those common to an urban area, an industrial area, and those common to areas in which the people share similar living standards, use the same transportation facilities, have similar work opportunities, or have access to the same media of communication relevant to the election process. Communities of interest shall not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.*
- (5) *To the extent practicable, and where this does not conflict with the criteria above, wards shall be drawn to encourage geographical compactness such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for more distant population.*
- (6) *The place of residence of any incumbent or political candidate shall not be considered in the creation of a map. Districts shall not be drawn for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against an incumbent, political candidate, or political party.*

#### **Standards that the Ward Boundaries Committee will employ for the criteria outlined in the Charter**

(1) *“Equality of ward populations so far as practicable;”*

- The Ward Boundaries Committee (WBC) should, prior to receiving Census data, establish an acceptable individual deviation from the ideal ward population average. The WBC proposes that no ward should be more than +/- 5% from the ideal population.
  - “Ideal Ward Population” = Total Providence population as defined by the decennial Census / 15 wards
  - “Each ward must have a population between (1.05)(Ideal Ward Pop.) and (0.95)(Ideal Ward Pop.)”

(2) *“Contiguousness of the territory of each ward;”*

- WBC should establish rules for contiguity across major physical and natural boundaries.
  - As described by The Brennan Center “Contiguousness is a district where you can travel from any point in the district to any other point in the district without crossing the district boundary; where all the parts of a district are connected to each other.”<sup>1</sup>
  - The WBC proposes that “So far as practicable, a ward shall not cross a highway, body of water, or other major physical or natural boundary. Moreover, a ward shall not cross a highway, body of water unless a bridge or other physical connection exists allowing people to make a similar crossing on foot or by vehicle.”

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<sup>1</sup> A Citizen’s Guide to Redistricting, J. Levitt, 2010. Brennan Center for Justice.

(3) *“Wards shall comply with the federal Voting Rights Act (42. U.S.C. Sec. 1971 and following).”*

- In the event of a discrepancy WBC may rely on the advice of the City Solicitor or to the expert consultant with respect to these issues.

(4) *Geographic integrity of local communities of interest*

- The Charter defines a “Community of interest” as “a contiguous population which shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single ward for purposes of its effective and fair representation. The Charter then outlines examples of shared interests as “those common to an urban area, an industrial area, and those common to areas in which the people share similar living standards, use the same transportation facilities, have similar work opportunities, or have access to the same media of communication relevant to the election process. Communities of interest shall not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.”
  - The definition of “community of interest” provided in the Charter, while helpful, is (a) somewhat tautological and (b) open to interpretation.
    - a. Tautological. The WBC is meant to “respect the geographic integrity” of “communities of interest,” which would mean ensuring that each community of interest is contained within a single ward, but a community of interest is partially defined by the fact that it “should be included within a single ward[.]” This is circular logic.
    - b. Open to interpretation. Other aspects of the definition may be in the eye of the beholder. For example, “common social and economic interests” is rather vague and open to interpretation. Different people may have reasonable and valid reasons for viewing the same geographic areas as sharing or not sharing common social and economic interests.
    - c. Suggestions:
      - 1. WBC should provide the public with the definition and examples from the Charter and then encourage members of the public to draw maps of what they believe are communities of interest.
      - 2. This information can then be gathered, aggregated, referenced, and used to inform WBC decisions on communities of interest.
        - a. Such an effort can be achieved using free public tools such as
          - i. [distictr.org](http://distictr.org) - English only but no login required
          - ii. <https://www.representable.org/> (available in Spanish, Arabic, Hmong in addition to English) Login and short survey required
    - d. Additionally, per Brennan Center suggestion, WBC could reduce the vagueness around communities of interest by preventing wards from dividing census tracts, which “generally share the same demographic characteristics economic status, and living conditions.”
      - 1. Or, alternatively, WBC could select specific census tracts (or groups of contiguous census tracts) and deem them communities of interest based on public input and then draw wards that do not divide those specific census tracts (or groups of tracts).

5) *Compactness.*

- There are mathematical measures that have been employed for measuring compactness (Polsby-Popper, Rerock, etc.), WBC members may be interested in pursuing learning more about the calculations during the drawing process..
- WBC members may want to discuss using major streets as dividing lines (i.e. East of Smith Street is one ward, West of Smith is a different ward during the drawing process..

6) *Incumbents and political parties.*

- In addition to addresses of incumbents and candidates, WBC should affirmatively establish, prior to receiving Census data, that no political party data will be used to inform the drawing of ward boundaries.

## **Principles that the Ward Boundary Committee will employ when using the criteria outlined in the Charter**

Below are a set of guiding principles that the WBC, its liaisons to city council, and any hired consultants will employ when putting into action the Charter criteria for Ward Boundary drawing.

### Transparency and Public Engagement

- WBC, its liaisons to city council, and any hired consultants shall conduct its work in open public meetings in accordance with the State of Rhode Island's Open Meetings Act
- Hired consultant shall record a log of who they meet with, when the meeting occurred, and for what purpose the meeting was held. This log will be available on request to the WBC and will be a part of the final report.
- Any meetings between hired consultant and an elected official shall also include a member of the WBC. The WBC member will not be an elected official.
- WBC shall engage the public and solicit responses pertinent to the ward boundary drawing process. Information and data gathered from the public shall be used to inform the ward boundary drawing decisions of WBC.
- WBC will commit to engaging the public and soliciting responses in a manner that enables as many to participate as possible and in ways engaging for them. There will be multiple ways in which to submit information to the committee including but not limited to paper and electronic copies of materials, as well as in person public meetings (when allowable) and electronic options for participation.

### Political Neutrality

- WBC shall not intentionally benefit any political party, faction, candidate, or cause over any others. Neither the addresses of political candidates nor political party affiliation of residents shall be used or discussed at any point in the work of the WBC.

### Facilitating Civic Participation

- To the extent practicable, each ward shall include at least one building suitable for use as a polling place. Such suitable buildings shall include, but are not limited to, public schools, public libraries, firehouses, recreation centers, houses of worship, and community centers.
- To the extent practicable, each ward shall include at least one public building suitable for holding neighborhood meetings, community conversations, or other types of civic participation around issues of local interest. Such suitable public buildings shall include, but are not limited to, public schools, public libraries, and recreation centers.

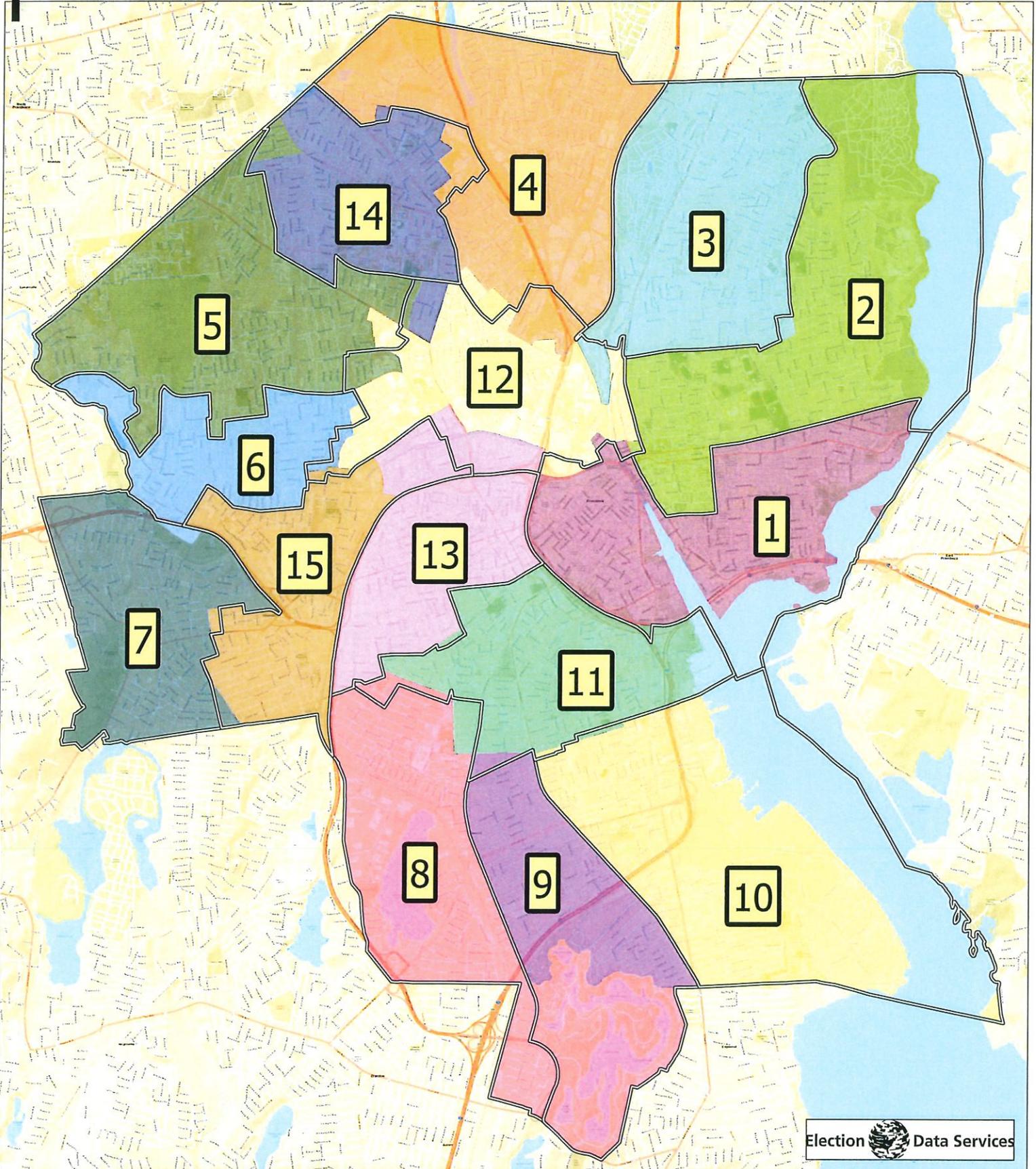
### Starting Point and Historic Considerations

- While WBC shall use the current existing ward boundaries as a starting point, WBC shall also utilize previous decades' ward boundaries and data on population and demographic shifts over time, as well as forward-looking data on Providence's population and demographic estimates to inform the drawing of new, updated ward boundaries.

# EXHIBIT B

# Providence - Ward Redistricting Proposal "A"

## Minimal Change - No Precincts optionally under 300 Eligible Voters



Election  Data Services

DISTRICT	Adjusted Population Tabulation			Original Population Tabulation			Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Total Population					Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Voting Population						
	Population	Change	% Change	Population	Change	% Change	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority		
1	13,341	12,754	4.60%	587	13,335	12,719	4.76%	606	59.38%	5.80%	16.79%	11.39%	40.84%	59.59%	5.40%	17.79%	11.03%	40.41%
2	12,854	12,754	0.78%	100	12,854	12,719	0.98%	125	67.41%	3.92%	13.76%	8.48%	32.59%	67.05%	4.12%	14.68%	8.54%	32.85%
3	12,265	12,754	3.99%	-489	12,251	12,719	3.79%	-478	65.33%	4.37%	5.61%	10.96%	34.67%	67.37%	8.51%	5.39%	3.55%	31.53%
4	12,274	12,719	3.57%	-445	12,274	12,719	3.57%	-445	28.00%	17.71%	2.61%	43.02%	72.00%	31.01%	16.93%	2.57%	38.61%	66.08%
5	13,334	12,754	4.55%	580	13,320	12,719	4.64%	591	45.82%	13.07%	2.40%	33.13%	54.18%	50.74%	11.77%	2.43%	29.36%	49.28%
6	12,863	12,754	0.86%	109	12,823	12,719	0.79%	100	13.12%	14.48%	3.69%	64.06%	86.88%	15.96%	14.75%	4.02%	60.91%	84.04%
7	13,206	12,754	3.54%	-452	13,175	12,719	3.50%	-446	14.06%	8.82%	3.44%	69.79%	85.84%	16.94%	8.69%	3.72%	66.97%	87.00%
8	12,710	12,754	-0.35%	-34	12,690	12,719	-0.23%	-39	11.30%	11.02%	10.16%	63.34%	88.70%	13.00%	11.34%	10.88%	60.84%	87.00%
9	12,188	12,754	4.44%	-566	12,163	12,719	4.44%	-566	10.79%	12.29%	4.18%	68.89%	89.21%	12.12%	12.75%	4.03%	67.34%	87.88%
10	12,254	12,754	3.91%	-500	12,224	12,719	3.91%	-505	14.64%	16.05%	2.82%	60.17%	85.36%	17.18%	16.70%	3.04%	57.21%	82.62%
11	12,340	12,754	3.26%	-414	12,340	12,719	3.26%	-379	14.67%	18.79%	4.21%	59.73%	85.93%	18.85%	19.81%	4.44%	53.99%	83.15%
12	12,415	12,754	2.66%	-339	12,340	12,719	2.62%	-340	34.44%	13.81%	8.51%	37.24%	65.56%	38.50%	12.82%	9.38%	33.29%	60.50%

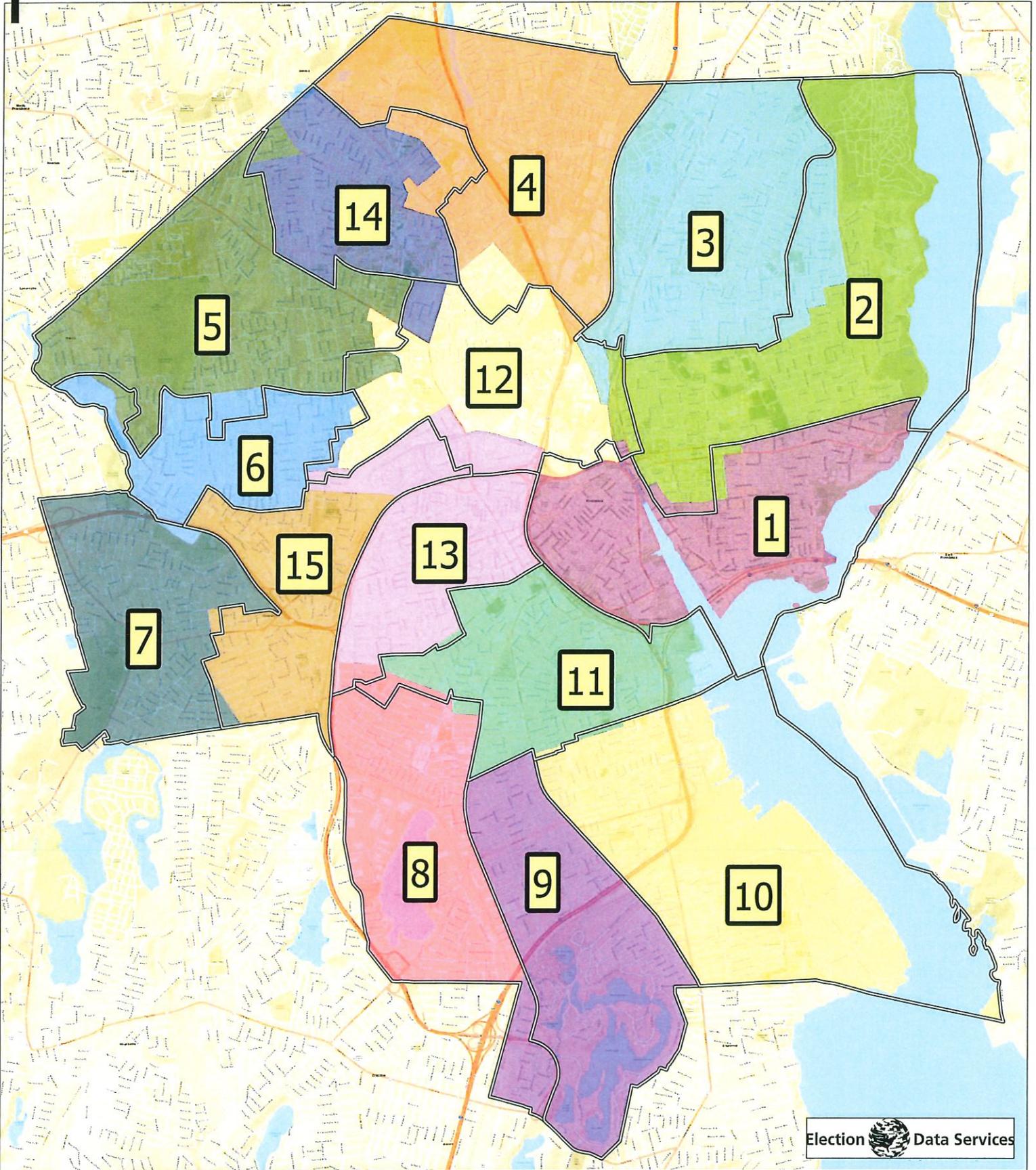


Total Deviation - 9.11%  
 Hispanic VAP Majority Wards - 7  
 Hispanic VAP Plurality Wards - 1  
 Largest NH Black Ward - 11 (19.8%)  
 Minimum # of Precincts - 76

# EXHIBIT C

# Providence - Ward Redistricting Proposal "B"

## Moderate Change - No Precincts optionally under 400 Eligible Voters



DISTRICT	Adjusted Population Tabulation				Original Population Tabulation				Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Total Population					Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Voting Population				
	Persons	Change	% Change	±	Persons	Change	% Change	±	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority
1	13,388	12,754	4.91%	634	13,362	12,729	4.87%	633	58.82%	5.79%	17.24%	11.34%	41.18%	59.25%	5.39%	18.29%	10.92%	40.75%
2	13,357	12,754	4.73%	603	13,355	12,729	4.57%	626	66.38%	4.47%	13.66%	9.01%	33.62%	66.34%	4.65%	14.33%	8.95%	33.66%
3	13,318	12,754	4.88%	564	13,364	12,729	4.89%	635	67.13%	7.80%	5.47%	10.23%	32.87%	69.03%	7.95%	5.77%	8.88%	30.97%
4	12,141	12,754	-4.81%	-613	12,101	12,729	-6.17%	-628	29.87%	19.54%	2.70%	39.44%	70.16%	35.10%	18.81%	2.59%	35.54%	64.84%
5	12,266	12,754	-3.83%	-488	12,252	12,729	-4.37%	-477	46.11%	12.52%	2.47%	32.41%	53.89%	51.12%	12.10%	2.51%	28.72%	48.88%
6	13,212	12,754	3.58%	458	13,178	12,729	3.53%	449	13.49%	14.06%	3.61%	64.06%	86.51%	16.34%	14.41%	3.95%	60.77%	83.66%
7	13,206	12,754	3.54%	452	13,175	12,729	3.50%	446	14.00%	8.87%	3.44%	69.79%	85.94%	16.84%	8.67%	3.72%	66.97%	83.06%
8	12,454	12,754	-2.31%	-300	12,422	12,729	-2.41%	-307	9.43%	11.16%	10.16%	65.27%	90.57%	10.79%	11.54%	10.98%	63.11%	89.21%
9	13,379	12,754	4.90%	625	13,353	12,729	4.89%	624	12.31%	11.70%	4.89%	66.99%	87.69%	13.50%	12.00%	4.84%	65.11%	86.10%
10	12,254	12,754	-4.02%	-500	12,224	12,729	-4.97%	-505	14.64%	16.05%	2.82%	60.17%	85.96%	17.18%	16.70%	3.04%	57.21%	82.82%
11	12,365	12,754	-3.05%	-389	12,314	12,729	-3.26%	-415	14.06%	15.76%	4.35%	55.75%	85.94%	16.60%	16.89%	4.59%	52.90%	89.20%

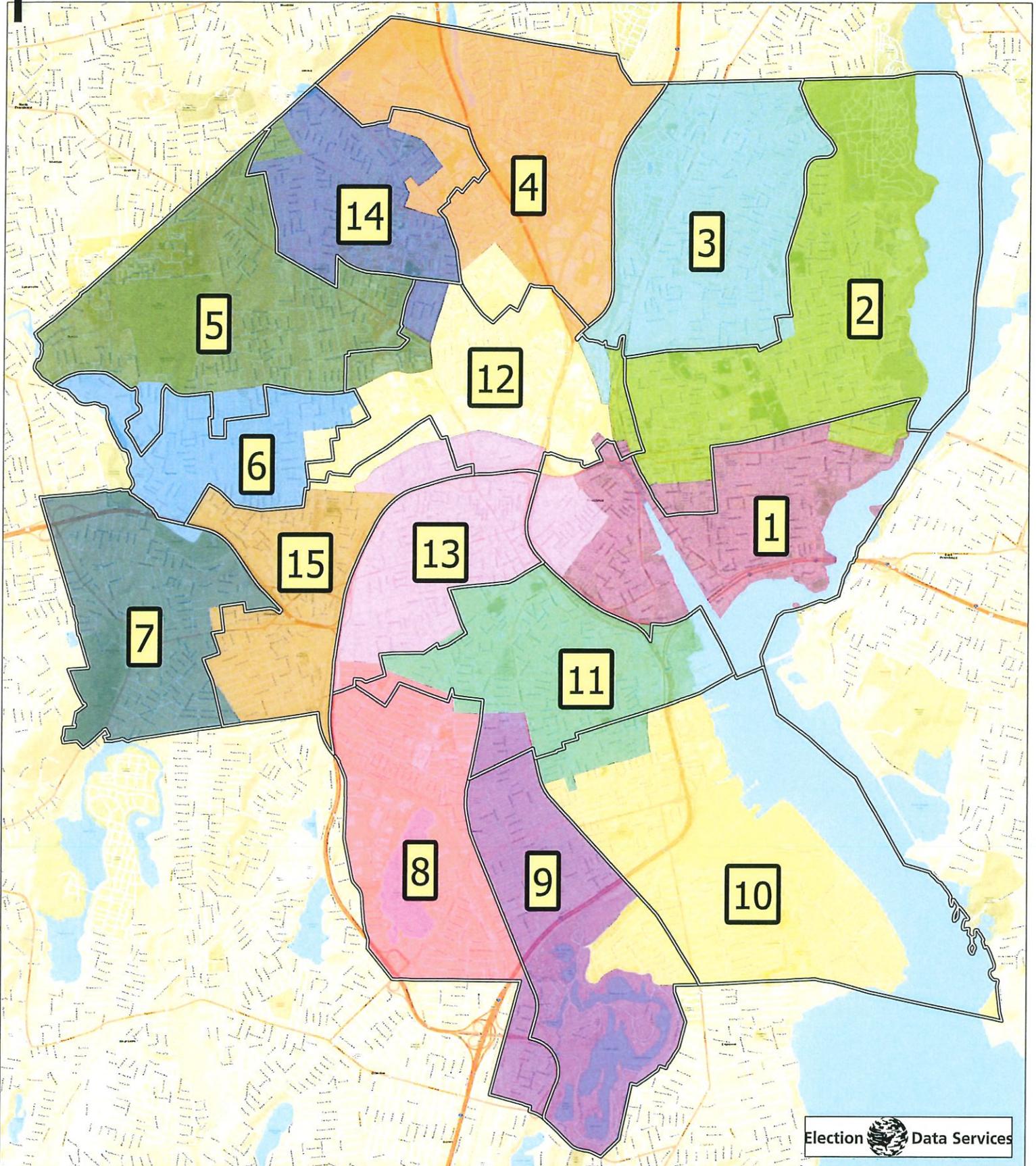


Total Deviation - 9.71%  
 Hispanic VAP Majority Wards - 7  
 Hispanic VAP Plurality Wards - 2  
 Largest NH Black Ward - 11 (19.9%)  
 Minimum # of Precincts - 75

# EXHIBIT D

# Providence - Ward Redistricting Proposal "C"

## Higher Involvement of Testimony - Downtown no longer wholly in Ward 1



Election Data Services

DISTRICT	Adjusted Population Tabulation				Original Population Tabulation				Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Total Population					Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Voting Population				
	Adj. Pop.	Change	% Change	Diff.	Pop.	Change	% Change	Diff.	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority
1	13,370	12,754	4.93%	616	13,365	12,729	5.00%	636	57.57%	6.21%	18.38%	10.41%	42.43%	57.86%	5.92%	19.39%	9.99%	42.14%
2	13,305	12,754	4.12%	551	13,303	12,729	4.51%	574	70.88%	3.55%	11.62%	8.26%	29.12%	70.97%	3.67%	12.34%	8.21%	29.03%
3	12,265	12,754	-3.98%	-489	12,251	12,729	-3.79%	-478	65.23%	8.37%	5.51%	10.50%	34.67%	67.37%	8.51%	5.29%	9.55%	32.63%
4	12,141	12,754	-4.81%	-613	12,101	12,729	-4.93%	-628	29.82%	19.54%	2.70%	39.14%	70.18%	35.16%	18.61%	2.59%	35.51%	64.84%
5	12,543	12,754	-1.65%	-211	12,527	12,729	-1.89%	-202	48.24%	12.02%	2.46%	35.76%	57.20%	53.44%	13.77%	2.45%	26.81%	48.56%
6	13,045	12,754	2.30%	291	13,015	12,729	2.23%	286	14.31%	14.43%	3.46%	62.94%	85.67%	17.31%	24.55%	3.82%	59.64%	82.69%
7	13,206	12,754	3.54%	452	13,175	12,729	3.50%	446	14.06%	8.82%	3.44%	69.79%	85.94%	16.94%	8.69%	3.72%	66.97%	83.06%
8	12,454	12,754	-2.35%	-300	12,422	12,729	-2.41%	-307	9.43%	11.16%	10.16%	65.27%	90.57%	10.79%	11.54%	10.98%	63.11%	89.21%
9	12,367	12,754	-3.01%	-387	12,343	12,729	-3.05%	-386	12.15%	12.13%	5.63%	65.87%	87.85%	13.96%	12.01%	5.75%	64.07%	86.04%
10	12,367	12,754	-1.00%	-387	12,334	12,729	-1.00%	-395	16.41%	15.57%	3.02%	58.69%	83.59%	18.79%	16.34%	3.10%	55.95%	81.21%
11	13,264	12,754	4.00%	510	13,214	12,729	3.85%	485	12.42%	19.29%	2.53%	58.99%	87.58%	14.86%	19.69%	3.72%	56.13%	85.14%
12																		



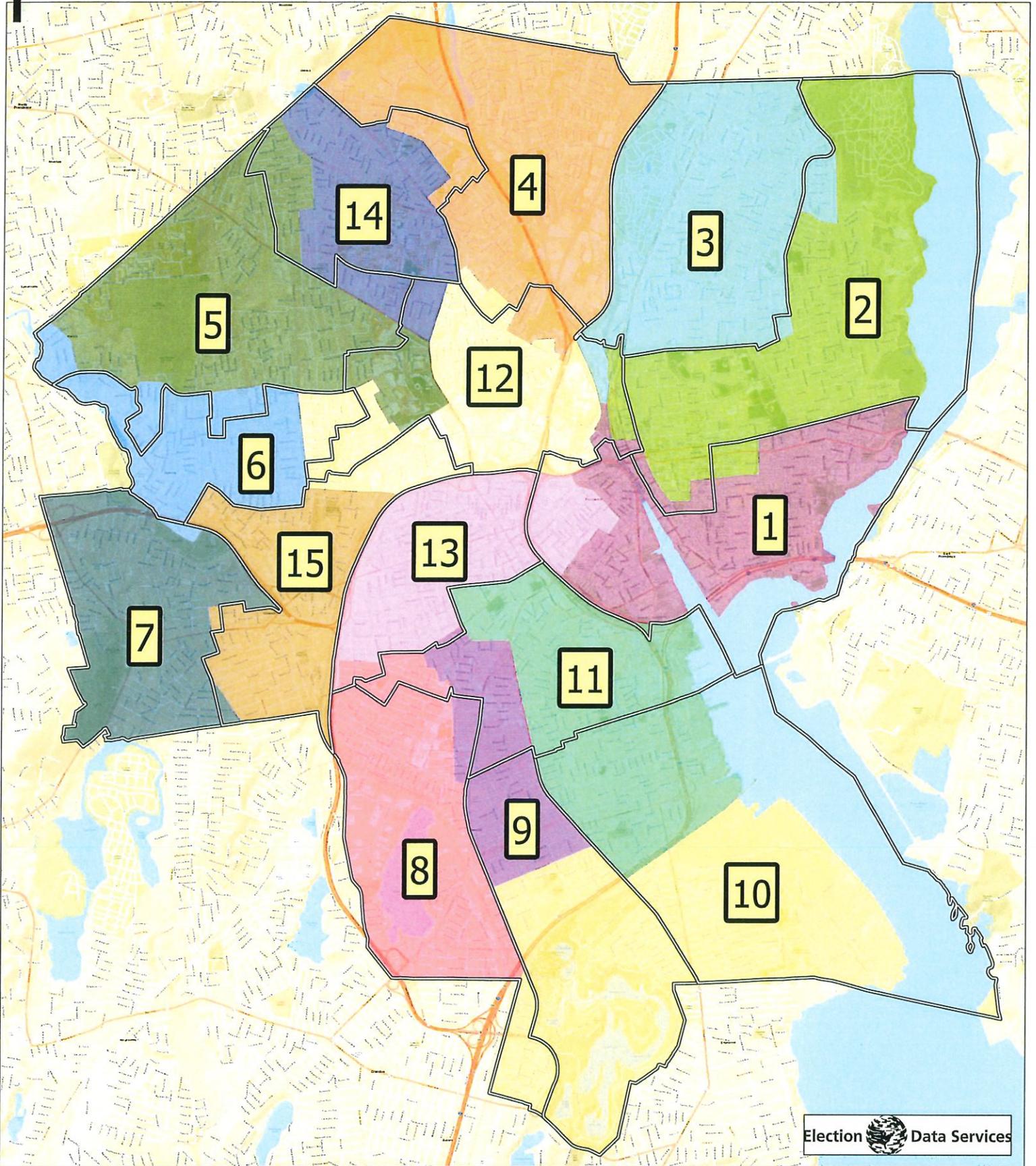
Total Deviation - 9.64%  
 Hispanic VAP Majority Wards - 7  
 Hispanic VAP Plurality Wards - 2  
 Largest NH Black Ward - 11 (19.7%)  
 Minimum # of Districts - 76

# EXHIBIT E



# Providence - Ward Redistricting Proposal "D"

## Highest Amount of Change - Least amount of Neighborhood Splits

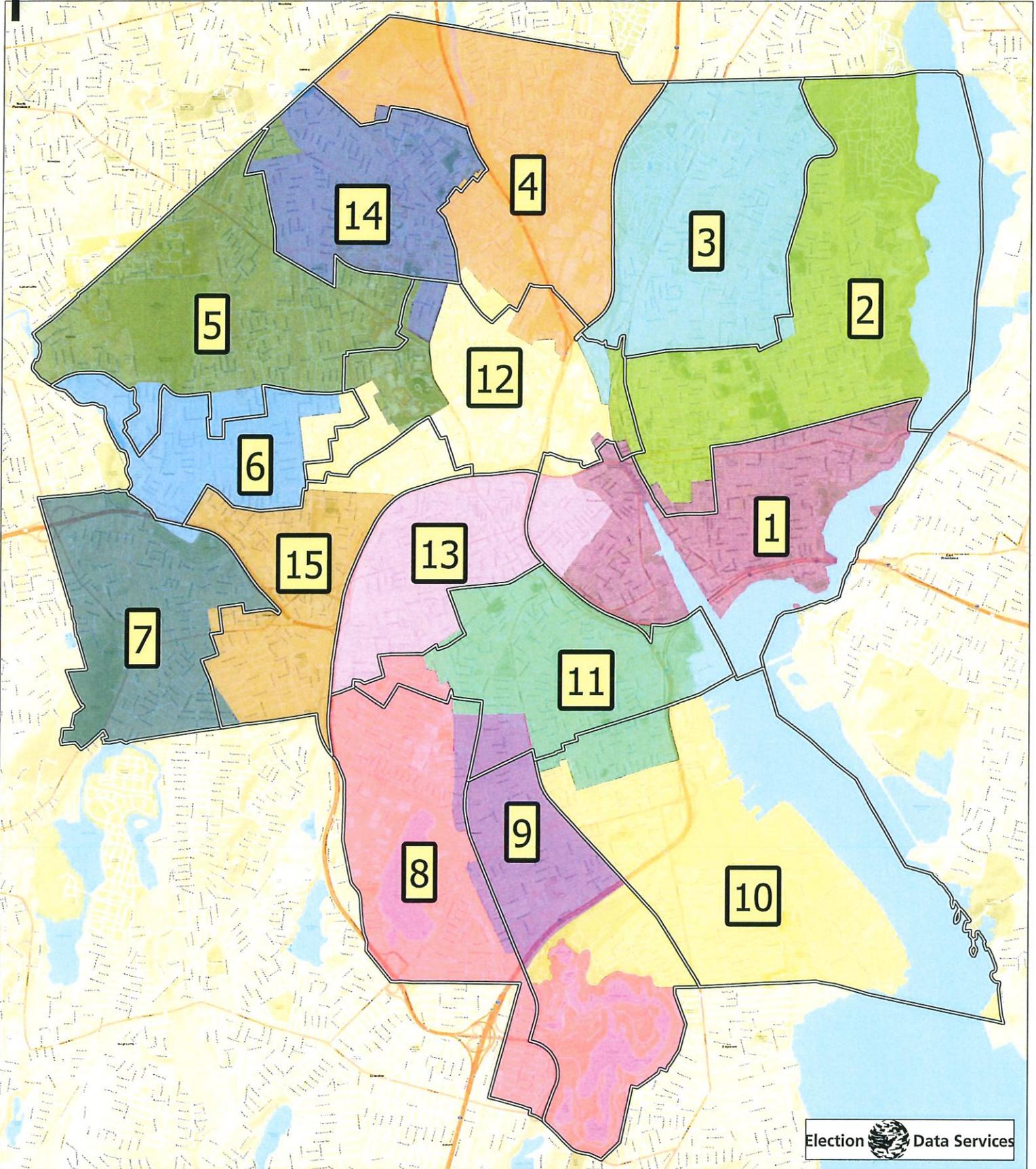


DISTRICT	Adjusted Population Tabulation				Original Population Tabulation				Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Total Population					Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Voting Population				
	Population	Target	Diff	% Change	Population	Target	Diff	% Change	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority
1	13,204	12,754	450	3.53%	13,199	12,729	470	3.69%	58.98%	9.95%	17.67%	10.16%	41.02%	59.25%	5.66%	18.75%	9.70%	40.75%
2	13,218	12,754	464	3.64%	13,245	12,729	516	4.06%	68.99%	2.94%	12.62%	8.44%	31.07%	68.91%	4.12%	13.37%	8.45%	31.06%
3	12,515	12,754	-239	-1.88%	12,511	12,729	-218	-1.72%	65.73%	8.23%	5.46%	10.79%	34.27%	67.74%	8.29%	5.73%	9.43%	32.22%
4	13,160	12,754	406	3.19%	13,110	12,729	381	3.00%	27.58%	18.40%	2.53%	42.85%	72.42%	33.28%	17.82%	2.46%	38.49%	66.72%
5	12,544	12,754	-210	-1.65%	12,526	12,729	-203	-1.59%	47.03%	11.83%	2.65%	31.55%	52.97%	52.18%	11.58%	2.82%	28.01%	47.82%
6	12,196	12,754	-558	-4.37%	12,167	12,729	-562	-4.41%	16.18%	14.78%	3.46%	60.81%	83.82%	19.58%	14.66%	3.60%	57.42%	80.43%
7	13,206	12,754	452	3.54%	13,175	12,729	446	3.50%	14.06%	8.82%	1.44%	69.79%	85.94%	16.94%	8.69%	3.72%	66.97%	83.06%
8	12,686	12,754	-68	-0.53%	12,648	12,729	-81	-0.64%	9.88%	10.89%	10.02%	65.41%	90.12%	11.33%	11.07%	10.70%	63.35%	88.67%
9	12,310	12,754	-444	-3.48%	12,296	12,729	-433	-3.41%	11.82%	12.63%	4.89%	64.30%	88.89%	13.71%	14.41%	5.31%	62.97%	89.29%
10	12,314	12,754	-440	-3.46%	12,284	12,729	-445	-3.50%	19.39%	12.99%	4.69%	56.91%	80.52%	21.91%	13.80%	4.90%	53.76%	78.09%
11	12,132	12,754	-622	-4.88%	11,085	12,729	-1,644	-12.92%	9.76%	10.73%	2.68%	61.33%	90.24%	11.44%	20.41%	2.84%	59.67%	88.56%
12	13,056	12,754	302	2.37%	13,029	12,729	300	2.36%	24.44%	14.27%	7.60%	47.28%	75.56%	28.97%	13.70%	8.49%	49.44%	71.13%

Total Deviation - 9.03%  
 Hispanic VAP Majority Wards - 7  
 Hispanic VAP Plurality Wards - 2  
 Largest NH Black Ward - 11 (20.4%)  
 Minimum # of Precincts - 74

# EXHIBIT F

# Providence Wards and Boundary Committee Redistricting Proposal 1



Election  Data Services

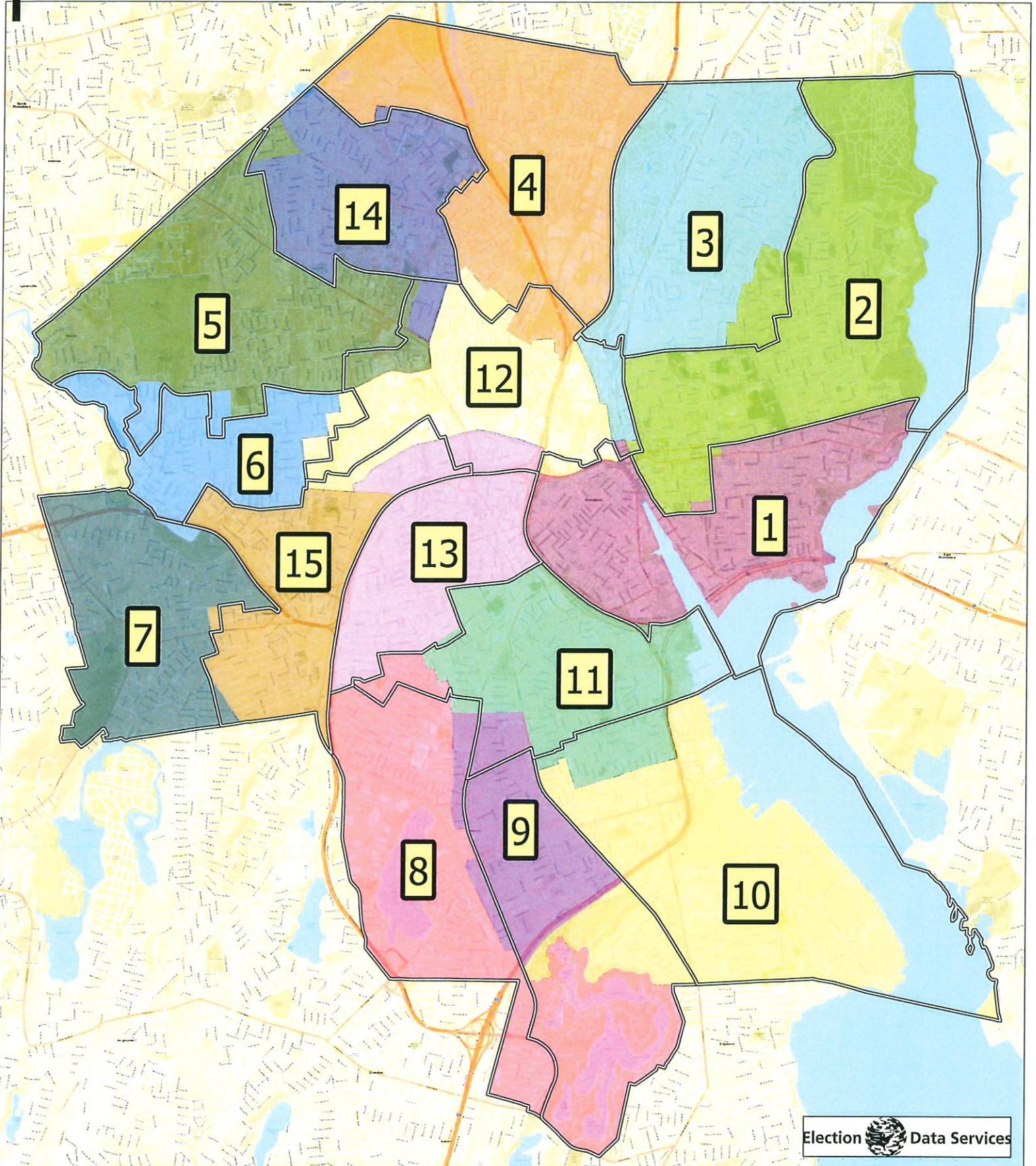
DISTRICT	Adjusted Population Tabulation				Original Population Tabulation				Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Total Population					Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Voting Population				
	Population	Target	Variance	% Variance	Population	Target	Variance	% Variance	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority
1	13,331	12,754	4,52%	577	13,316	12,719	4,69%	597	58.85%	5.85%	17.67%	10.27%	41.05%	59.26%	5.53%	18.70%	9.85%	40.74%
2	13,310	12,754	4.44%	566	13,318	12,729	4.61%	589	69.46%	3.92%	12.33%	8.42%	30.54%	69.44%	4.10%	13.07%	8.39%	30.56%
3	12,265	12,754	-3.83%	-489	12,251	12,729	-3.73%	-478	65.33%	8.37%	5.51%	10.90%	34.67%	67.37%	8.51%	5.79%	9.55%	32.63%
4	12,273	12,754	-3.77%	-481	12,235	12,729	-3.88%	-494	27.80%	17.70%	2.62%	41.04%	72.64%	31.87%	17.90%	2.56%	38.63%	65.13%
5	13,115	12,754	2.83%	361	13,097	12,729	2.89%	368	42.57%	12.06%	2.46%	31.48%	52.47%	52.70%	11.78%	2.46%	32.54%	47.30%
6	12,124	12,754	-4.94%	-630	13,096	12,729	-3.67%	-633	14.56%	14.84%	3.44%	62.28%	85.44%	17.57%	14.95%	3.75%	59.01%	82.43%
7	13,206	12,754	3.54%	452	13,175	12,729	3.50%	446	14.06%	8.82%	3.44%	69.77%	85.84%	16.84%	6.69%	3.72%	66.97%	83.06%
8	12,828	12,754	0.58%	74	12,792	12,729	0.50%	63	11.61%	10.91%	10.17%	63.23%	88.39%	13.54%	11.01%	10.76%	60.74%	86.46%
9	12,193	12,754	-4.40%	-561	12,170	12,729	-3.39%	-559	10.60%	13.99%	4.72%	67.44%	89.40%	12.01%	12.99%	4.76%	66.30%	87.99%
10	12,303	12,754	-3.54%	-451	12,271	12,729	-3.60%	-458	16.41%	15.29%	3.02%	59.07%	83.59%	18.90%	16.18%	3.11%	56.07%	81.10%
11	12,219	12,754	-4.12%	-535	12,184	12,729	-4.29%	-545	12.18%	20.00%	3.41%	58.30%	87.82%	14.51%	20.50%	3.71%	55.45%	85.49%



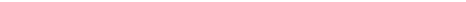
Total Deviation - 9.92%  
 Hispanic VAP Majority Wards - 7  
 Hispanic VAP Plurality Wards - 2  
 Largest NH Black Ward - 11 (20.5%)  
 Minimum # of Precincts - 74

# EXHIBIT G

# Providence Wards and Boundary Committee Redistricting Proposal 2



DISTRICT	Adjusted Population Tabulation				Original Population Tabulation				Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Total Population					Racial Demographics as Percent of Adjusted Voting Population				
	Population	Change	% Change	Change	Population	Change	% Change	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority	NH White	NH Black	NH Asian	Hispanic	Minority	
1	13,389	12,754	+82%	615	13,363	12,729	+4.8%	634	58.56%	5.83%	17.21%	11.44%	41.44%	58.99%	5.42%	18.26%	11.02%	41.01%
2	13,357	12,754	+73%	603	13,357	12,729	+4.9%	628	68.99%	3.66%	12.65%	8.31%	31.01%	68.72%	3.87%	13.53%	8.36%	31.28%
3	13,377	12,754	+89%	623	13,361	12,729	+4.8%	632	64.78%	8.57%	6.50%	10.82%	35.22%	66.76%	6.63%	6.90%	9.49%	33.24%
4	12,271	12,754	-37%	-481	12,235	12,729	-1.8%	-494	77.96%	17.76%	2.62%	43.04%	72.04%	31.87%	17.00%	2.56%	38.63%	66.33%
5	12,015	12,754	-20%	-739	12,099	12,729	-2.2%	-770	47.80%	11.87%	2.43%	31.12%	32.20%	53.07%	16.73%	2.41%	27.14%	46.93%
6	12,216	12,754	-4.6%	-518	12,208	12,729	-4.0%	-521	14.38%	14.71%	3.45%	62.67%	85.64%	17.47%	14.82%	3.78%	59.35%	82.53%
7	12,206	12,754	-3.5%	-452	12,135	12,729	-3.5%	-446	14.06%	8.21%	3.44%	68.79%	85.94%	16.94%	8.69%	3.72%	66.07%	83.06%
8	12,818	12,754	+0.5%	74	12,792	12,729	+0.5%	63	11.61%	10.91%	10.17%	63.23%	88.39%	13.54%	11.01%	10.76%	60.74%	86.46%
9	12,193	12,754	-4.4%	-561	12,170	12,729	-4.3%	-559	10.60%	12.99%	4.72%	67.44%	88.40%	12.01%	12.99%	4.76%	64.30%	87.99%
10	12,303	12,754	-3.5%	-451	12,271	12,729	-3.6%	-458	16.41%	15.29%	3.02%	59.07%	83.59%	18.90%	16.18%	3.11%	56.07%	81.30%
11	12,229	12,754	-4.1%	-525	12,184	12,729	-4.2%	-545	12.18%	20.08%	3.41%	58.30%	87.81%	14.51%	20.50%	3.71%	55.45%	85.49%



Total Deviation - 9.38%  
 Hispanic VAP Majority Wards - 7  
 Hispanic VAP Plurality Wards - 2  
 Largest NH Black Ward - 11 (20.5%)  
 Minimum # of Precincts - 76