



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

## COUNCIL REDISTRICTING COMMISSION MINUTES

August 25, 2011

The Council Redistricting Commission of the City of Mesa met in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on August 25, 2011 at 5:36 p.m.

COMMISSION PRESENT	COMMISSION ABSENT	STAFF PRESENT
Brian Allen Nancy Aposhian Scott Higginson Terry Hines Deanna Villanueva-Saucedo	None	Alfred Smith Carla Wagner Melissa Jones

1. Welcome by Chairman Scott Higginson.

Chairman Higginson welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologized for not attending the last public hearing. He expressed his appreciation to staff and the consultants for their efforts and hard work throughout the public hearing process.

2. Current Events Summary on Redistricting Process.

Chairman Higginson reported that six public hearings were held and attended by many of the Commission Members. He commented that he was somewhat surprised by the low attendance at some of the hearings.

Chairman Higginson noted that the goal of the Commission is to work towards a final plan that will be presented to the Council. He remarked that National Demographics Corporation (NDC) converted the plans submitted by the public into maps to be reviewed by the Commission.

3. Approval of minutes from the June 30, 2011 Redistricting Commission meeting.

It was moved by Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo, seconded by Commission Member Hines, that the minutes from the June 30, 2011 Redistricting Commission meeting be approved.

Carried unanimously.

4. Discuss the public input received from the public meetings and online.

Executive Management Assistant to the City Manager Carla Wagner reported that all of the public commentary received at the public meetings and online has been provided to the Commission Members.

Chairman Higginson offered a brief overview of the comments received from each Council district. **(See Attachment 1)** He explained that many of the comments from District 1 were in support of Plan B and said that the public stressed the importance of the Mesa Grande Community Alliance and the Lehi Community remaining intact. Chairman Higginson also noted that only two comments were received from District 2, both of which indicated support for Plan A; that the comments received from District 3 were also in support of Plan A; and that in totaling all of the comments submitted, those in support of Plan A were equal to those in support of Plan B.

Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo advised that the concerns expressed to her regarding Plan B related to the communities of interest in District 3 not having any commonality with one another. She noted that using the low population link between the two different areas in District 3 could lead to an awkward growth pattern.

Discussion ensued relative to the impact that Plans A and B would have on District 1 and District 3; and how the Tempe/Mesa border communities could be maintained.

Chairman Higginson further remarked that the comments received from District 5 related to maintaining the neighborhoods near Falcon Field Airport. He said that the comments received from District 6 requested that the area surrounding Superstition Springs Mall be maintained. Chairman Higginson added that Vice Mayor Somers provided a map of the boundaries of the Superstition Springs area for consideration.

Chairman Higginson provided a short synopsis of the comments and maps that were received online. **(See Attachment 2)** He pointed out that the Hispanic Voting Age Population (HVAP) benchmark of 54.4% and the Hispanic Citizen Voting Age Population (HCVAP) benchmark of 25.4% were not met in Public Plan 1. (See Page 8 of Attachment 2)

Responding to a question from Commission Member Allen, Sara Larsen, Senior Analyst for NDC, clarified that the Department of Justice (DOJ) will review the HVAP and HCVAP benchmarks very closely to ensure that no retrogression has occurred in District 4. She stressed the fact that there could not be any deviation of the HVAP and HCVAP and said that the population benchmarks must be maintained. Ms. Larsen also noted that the consultants found additional problems with the plans submitted by the public which included the removal of an incumbent from his district, issues regarding compactness and contiguity, and the addition of a seventh Council district.

Further discussion ensued relative to the fact that Public Plans 1, 2 and 3 did not meet the HVAP or HCVAP requirements (See Pages 8, 9 and 10 of Attachment 2); and that Public Plans 4, 5 and 6 (See Pages 11, 12 and 13 of Attachment 2) meet the benchmark criteria and reflect Plan B.

Ms. Larsen, in addition, explained that late this afternoon, three additional plans were submitted which have not yet been analyzed by NDC. She stated that one of the late submission plans was provided to the Commission Members and would be labeled Public Plan 7. **(See Attachment 3)**

In response to a series of questions from Commission Member Allen, Ms. Larsen indicated that the plans received from District 4 suggest that the corner bounded by Gilbert Road and Harris Drive remain as part of District 4. She also remarked that Public Plans 4, 5 and 6 were drawn by the same individual who requested that the Mesa High School area remain intact.

5. Discuss and make recommendations on changes to the preliminary redistricting plans and recommendations for a proposed final redistricting plan.

Commission Member Allen proposed that the plans that were not viable be eliminated since it was apparent that the majority of support was for Plans A and B.

Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo commented that she felt comfortable eliminating Plans C and D. She noted that although Plans A and B “cover both ends of the spectrum,” she requested that the Commission not lock in on any specific plan at this time. Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo added that there might be areas in District 4 that could move further east.

Commission Member Allen clarified that he was not suggesting that the Commission be limited to Plans A or B, but simply that such plans be used as a starting point.

Chairman Higginson stated that it was the concurrence of the Commission that Plans C and D be eliminated.

Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo requested that the Commission explore the possibility of adjusting District 4 to avoid having the different communities of interest pitted against one another.

Ms. Larsen utilized the mapping tool to implement Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo’s suggested changes to District 4.

Additional discussion ensued relative to why Dobson Ranch residents would prefer that District 3 move north as opposed to east.

Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo commented that it was expressed to her that Dobson Ranch residents “feel more of an affinity” to the communities to the north than they do to the communities to the east. She stated the opinion that moving District 3 to the east would lead to an awkward future growth pattern and separate the district into two entirely different populations.

Further discussion ensued relative to the differences between the Lehi and Dobson Ranch Communities.

Chairman Higginson remarked that the residents in District 1 would be affected the most by Plan A since their community would become divided. He noted that in Plan B, the citizens in

District 3 oppose moving the boundary lines to the east due to the fact that “they feel more comfortable” with the citizens to the north.

Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo argued that District 3 residents would be impacted the same as those in District 1 and said that moving the boundary of District 3 east would change the entire configuration of the district.

Additional discussion ensued relative to the manner in which the communities of Dobson Ranch, Lehi, Mesa Grande Community Alliance and Dana Park would be impacted by the changes to District 3; and the input received from the residents in those areas.

Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo requested that Ms. Wagner obtain a map of Registered Neighborhood 74 (Mesa Grande Community Alliance) without the overlay of the other neighborhoods. She pointed out that the boundaries of the Mesa Grande Community Alliance cover a large portion of west Mesa. Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo added that due to the size of the Mesa Grande Community Alliance, it would be unrealistic to believe that those boundaries would never be modified.

Ms. Larsen utilized the mapping tool to implement further suggested adjustments to Plan A.

Extensive discussion ensued relative to the population of the western districts and where changes could be made that would result in the least amount of impact on the neighborhoods.

Commission Member Allen commented that Adobe Road is used as a district boundary and cuts through five elementary school boundaries. He expressed concern with respect to dividing elementary school boundaries due to the fact that many communities of interest are defined by the schools in their area.

Additional discussion ensued relative to the school boundaries between Gilbert Road and Greenfield Road; and the possibility of staggering the boundaries in order to have at least two schools in the same district.

Chairman Higginson referenced a map that he prepared (**See Attachment 4**) and stated that Vice Mayor Somers suggested at the District 6 public hearing that the Superstition Springs Mall area remain intact. He explained that his map attempts to establish “a middle ground” for District 3 by adding the southeastern corner back into District 4.

Ms. Larsen used the mapping tool to implement the suggested adjustments to Chairman Higginson’s map. She said that Chairman Higginson’s map keeps all of the Council districts under a 1% deviation in population.

Chairman Higginson remarked that his map was a compromise based on public input.

Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo acknowledged Chairman Higginson’s efforts with regard to extending the eastern boundaries around the Superstition Springs Mall area. She noted, however, that she opposed the District 3 “isthmus” and the effect it could have on the growth pattern in that district. Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo stated that she would prefer to find some “wobble room” in District 4 that would allow District 3 to move east and eliminate the isthmus.

Further discussion ensued relative to the future growth pattern of District 3 and how much of the isthmus could be eliminated without negatively impacting the communities.

Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo commented that there could be some potential for future growth in District 4 with the development of light rail. She stated that she would meet with Ms. Larsen to determine if it was mathematically possible to eliminate part of the isthmus in District 3.

Deputy City Attorney Alfred Smith clarified that if Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo and Ms. Larsen formulate a plan, it could be shared with the other Commission Members. He noted, however, that the Commission Members cannot comment on the plan until they meet again as a group so that they do not violate the Open Meeting Law.

Responding to a question from Commission Member Allen, Ms. Larsen explained that Chairman Higginson's map, which is labeled Plan B-Modified, would be available online for the Commission Members to review. She added that she would explore Commission Member Allen's concerns with regard to the school boundaries.

Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo pointed out that the plans do not encroach on the Lehi Sub-Area boundaries. She stated that the issue now is to try to maintain the Mesa Grande Community Alliance boundaries.

Chairman Higginson remarked that prior to the next Council Redistricting Commission meeting, Commission Member Villanueva-Saucedo would work with Ms. Larsen to develop a map. He stated that in addition, Ms. Larsen will address the issues raised by Commission Member Allen regarding the school boundaries between Brown Road, Main Street, Stapley Drive and Greenfield Road.

#### 6. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

Thursday, September 1, 2011, 5:30 p.m. – Council Redistricting Commission Meeting

Ms. Wagner indicated that the Commission was previously scheduled to make its presentation to the Council on September 8, 2011, but noted that the meeting has been postponed until September 12, 2011.

Chairman Higginson requested that Ms. Wagner e-mail the scheduling information to the Commission Members.

Further discussion ensued relative to the presentation of the final plan to the Council and the plan adoption process.

Ms. Wagner clarified that per the Mesa City Charter, the Commission's final plan would be presented to the Council. She explained that the Council can accept or reject the initial recommendation and noted that if the Council rejects the recommendation and requests reconsideration, the Commission's subsequent decision would be considered final. Ms. Wagner added that at the September 26, 2011 Regular Council meeting, the Council would vote to approve the plan.

7. Items from citizens present.

Michael Stevens, a Mesa resident, thanked the Commission Members for their efforts and said that he attended several of the public hearings. He explained that many of the comments presented at the public meetings pertained to maintaining the Mesa/Tempe border communities and the similarities between the communities in District 1 and the Dobson Ranch area. Mr. Stevens commented that in ten years, it will be necessary for the Council districts to grow to the east and said that the variables at that time would be different from what the Commission has been working with today. He added that ten years from now, the same Councilmembers may not be in office, which could provide an opportunity for District 3 to grow naturally.

Additional discussion ensued relative to the location of the current Councilmembers' residences; and future line-drawing criteria options.

Chairman Higginson thanked Mr. Stevens for his comments and participation in the redistricting process.

8. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Council Redistricting Commission adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Council Redistricting Commission of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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LINDA CROCKER, CITY CLERK

bdw/pag  
(attachments – 4)

**District 1 Comments**

Name	Address	Plan	Comments
Gregory and Corrine Miller	520 East 10 <sup>th</sup> Place	B	Keeps the older more established neighborhoods intact. There are several "communities of interest" involved.
Stephanie Wright	535 N. Orange	B	Plan B keeps neighborhoods intact and with a sense of community than the others. It also keeps the Mesa Grande Community Alliance together as per our strategic plan.
Tanya Collins	864 W. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street	B	You have done a remarkable job on this – not an easy task! Plan B would most nearly keep whole the Mesa Grande Community Alliance and its leadership. (Mesa Grande also is a subarea in the General Plan), which we have worked for the past 15+ years to create. Thank you!
David Montague	458 N. Olive	A, D	I prefer option A or B because it does not divide the neighborhood along an unusual boundary.
Kevin Rogers	916 E. Sorenson St.	B	B keeps our area intact. Our community of interest, Lehi should stay in District 1. We have a subarea plan for Lehi.
Mark Freeman	1118 E. Lockwood St.	B	I want to thank the Commission for their work. Please work on subarea plan boundaries and keep community of interest together as support plan.
Preston John	44 S. Greenfield #18	B	

Conway	1758 E. Gary St.	A	I feel A is by far the best choice. West Mesa itself is a community of interest. B is by far the worst. Dobson Ranch has nothing in common with Dana Park. Far west Mesa has livestock just like Lehi.
Rebecca Barranca	866 N. LeSueur		Thank you for holding this meeting. I wish I had had more time to really study and understand this process, but I am glad to have learned more this evening. My only concern is that there must be a great number of people who are not aware of this process, and may be affected without them having a chance to give input.
Robert G. Meyers	1441 W. 4 <sup>th</sup> Place	B	To have the least chance of developing a division in a community of interest, we need to make the fewest changes. Plan B would make the fewest changes in the West Mesa area. Also any other plan than B would divide the Mesa Grande Community Alliance Steering Committee into different districts.
Darcy King	1331 E. Nance	B	Thanks for your work. We will be glad if Lehi can stay together.
Sisters of Notre Dame	2162 N. Spring St.	B	Thank you for the opportunity. C would be ok also. Semi-rural Lehi should stay intact.
Janice Bahn	548 W. Third St.	B	Please seek good differences to include within a district.
Dennis Lloyd	1137 N. Cherry	B	Maintains basic lines of District 1. Least disturbance.

da Lloyd	1137 N.Cherry St.	B	This plan keeps the Mesa Grande Community Alliance—our community of interest intact. It also keeps Lehi—a community of interest intact. As a former resident of Dobson Ranch, I feel they have more in common with community at Val Vista rather than Lehi and properties to the north.
Susan Pew	1564 E. Lehi Rd.	B	Lehi community of interest in livestock ownership and Lehi Historical District. Thank you for your service.
Gene Dufoe	510 E. Ingram St.	B	
Rolland Shill	2445 N. Mesa Dr.	B	Please do all possible to keep all of the City of Mesa sub-area of Lehi in District 1. This is truly a community of interest.

**District 2 Comments**

Name	Address	Plan	Comments
Alan Ramsdell	1333 E. Downing St.	A	
Edward Murphy	2659 E. Kael St.	A	

**District 3 Comments**

Name	Address	Plan	Comments
Durrle Parks	634 S. El Dorado	A	I strongly feel -- or feel strongly A is the best plan, head and shoulders above the others. I do not like the Val Vista plan for District 3, for us A is simple, the best.
Annette Shrager	1645 W. Baseline #2126	A, C, D	Good meeting. Great data. Looks like Mesa is in good hands. Plan C does not look like it works for District 3
Michael Perry	242 S. Elmout Dr., Apache Junction	A	A – Best fit, most contiguous B – Very broken, the worst map C – Bad not contiguous; Districts 1, 3 and 4 are broken up D – Okay, but not as good as A, because of District 2
Sandra Fischer	959 W. Peralka	A	The part of District 4 on all maps that is between Alma School, Broadway and Pueblo seems to break off a community of interest (separate one neighborhood, that seems unfair). It should be added to District 3. Map B is the worst.
Carol Behrend	919 W. Pecos Ave.	A	
Michael Fischer	959 W. Peralka Ave.	A	If Plan A is not seriously considered, then please consider Plans D or C. Do not consider Plan B as it does not area that could be thought of within the community of interest criteria. Order of consideration: A, D, C, B (not a very good choice)

Soils	1748 W. Lindner Ave.	A		
Frank Mizner	1030 S. Westwood #7	A, D	I believe A and D are identical for District 3. A and D have more geographic and social contiguities with the existing District 3. C is not very logical, with the 3 mile eastern non-populated area.	
Lynda Bailey	1860 W. Milagro Ave.	A	Thanks to all those that volunteered for the Redistricting Commission.	
Maria Soils	1748 W. Lindner	A	Good work! Thank you.	
Barbara Osgood	2218 S. Saratoga	A		
Ellen Dexter	2447 S. Mulberry	A, D		
Mary McCabe	434 W. Nido Circle	A	A = Best, B = No, C = No, D = 2 <sup>nd</sup> Best	
Michael Murphy	2149 S. Don Carlos	A		

**District 4 Comments**

Name	Address	Plan	Comments
Kay Chapman	549 E. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave.		I would like to see some changes in District 4 and will submit a map of how I feel according to the population of where I feel would benefit this district and Districts 1, 2 and 3. District 4 pick-up Block 20 to the Superstition Freeway, Block 31 and part of 55.
Fiorene R. Brinkerhoff	229 S. Pioneer		I strongly feel that the Mesa High School area (block 20) should be included in District 4. And pick up more Hispanic population the N/E corner (blocks 37, 54 and part of 55) and the NW corner. Keep Block 31, which is already in District 4.
Dean A. Brinkerhoff	229 S. Pioneer		I feel that the Mesa High School area (block 20) should be included in District 4 and pickup Hispanic population the N/E corner (blocks part of 55, 37 54 and NW corner. Keep Block 31 which is already in District 4.

**District 5 Comments**

Name	Address	Plan	Comments
Martha McCoy	5656 E. Dodge St.	Other	The public participation districting kit is vague at best.
Steven Anderson	5739 E. Fountain St.	C	I like C, but would like to see a more simple demarcation line between Districts 1 and 3. This plan has a very tortured configuration as presently shown.
Geri Nichols	4608 E. Greenway		It is imperative that neighborhoods most affected by Falcon Field flights in District 5 are left together! No on Plan A – refer to NDC instructions #2 “Be careful not to split unnecessarily any obvious community of interest”
Jack & Judy Keledjian	7637 E. Palm Lane		What needs to happen to annex a County island?
Vern Mather	5505 E. McLellan Rd. #112	B	Recognizing the challenge in dealing with Dave Richins’ house location, Plan B seems to maintain the most integrity of representation and community continuity.
Bill Toperzer	4049 E. Huber	C	Ranked Order: C (favor), D, B, A (oppose)

**District 6 Comments**

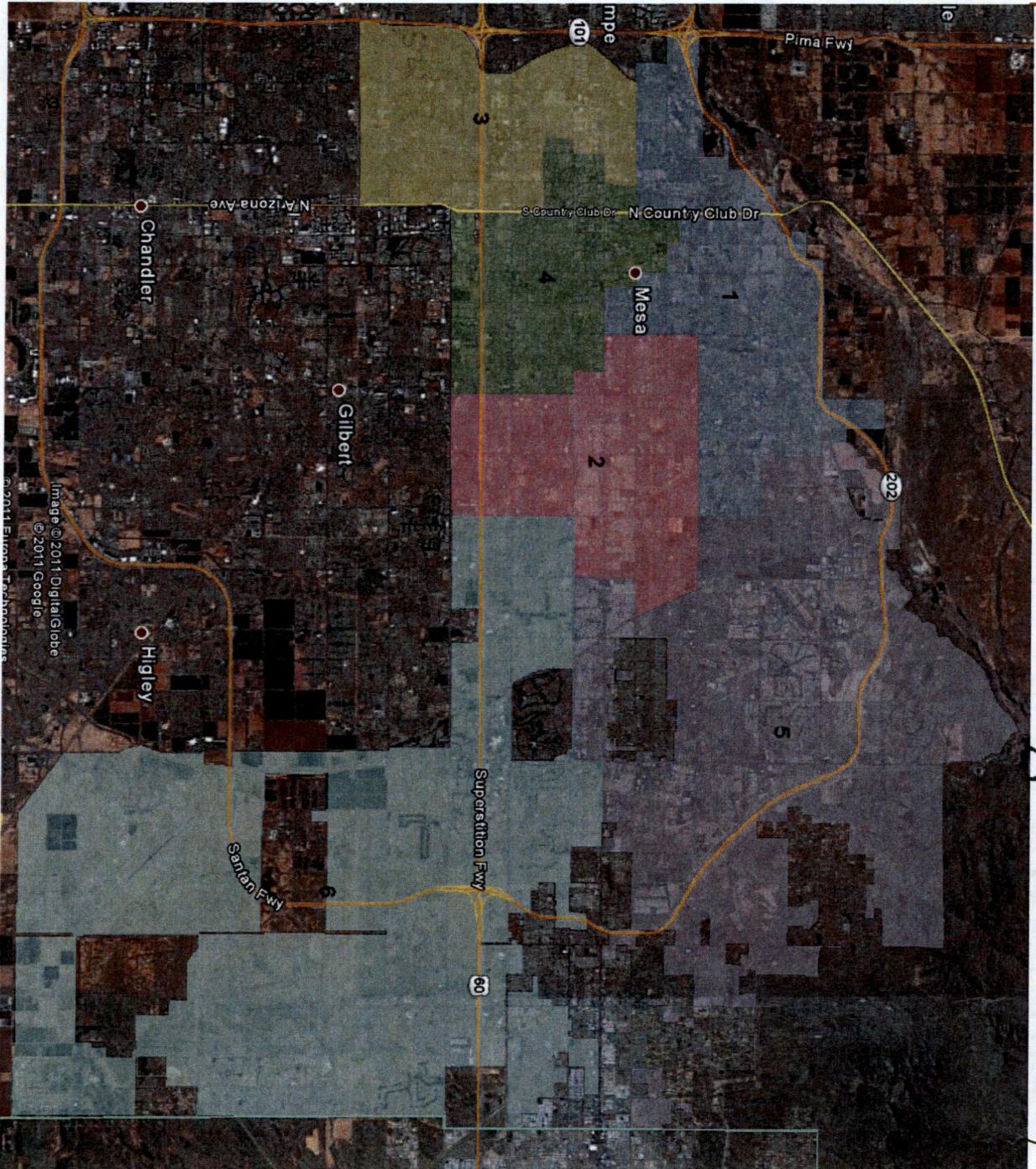
Name	Address	Plan	Comments
Beverly Selvage	2627 S. Hibiscus		Losing Superstition Mall would not be good. Thank you for all of your hard work.
Gary Patton	9806 E. Meseto	B	
Judy Mechura	9752 E. Empress Ave.	C	Also, any but A!! B, C and D are all okay.
Bev Schweizer	8500 E. Southern #405	C	

Online Comments

Name	Address	Plan	Comments
Lincoln Wright		D	I am a Mesa resident. I live in District 1. I support Plan D. I think it is the most logical, fair and equitable distribution of the 4 plans.
Brant and Melinda Layton		B	Too bad this is happening on the same night as the Westwood High School Open House—the high school for District 1. In my opinion Plan B looks the best.
Grace Smith	5450 E. McLellan #116		I live in Alta Mesa. Map A incorporates Alta Mesa into a district that includes a large area of West Mesa. I think that the commercial area of West Mesa does not share a community of interest with residential Alta Mesa. Therefore, I request that Map A not be selected for redistricting the City of Mesa.
Larry Cornell	108 N. Greenfield Rd #2019	D	
Donald Shooter	2235 W. De Palma	B	I would like to cast my vote/support for Map B.

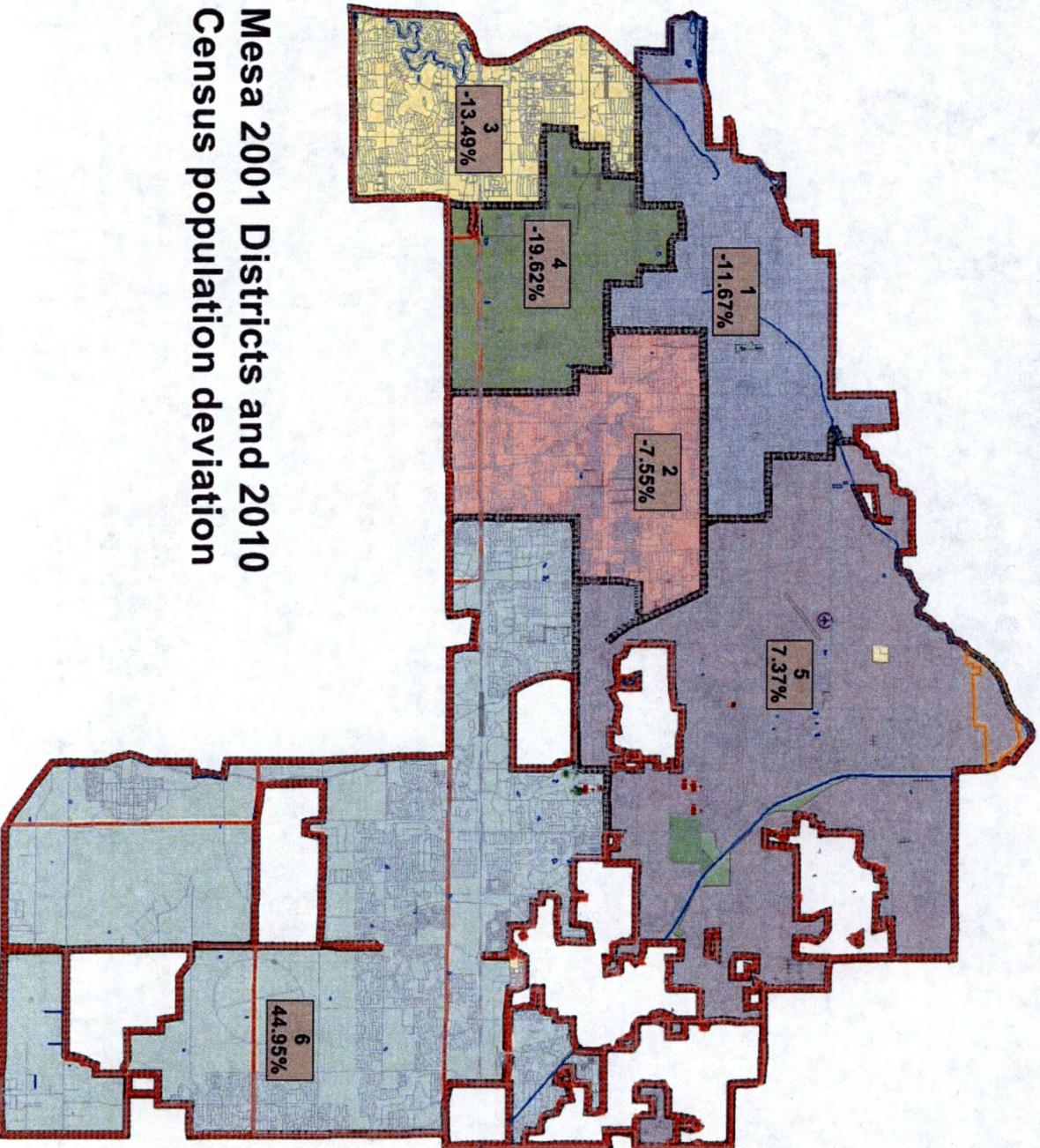
Stoneburner	620 N. 64 <sup>th</sup> St.	A	<p>Thank you, members of the redistricting commission, for what you are doing. I understand that you have all put a lot of thought and effort into the maps. I attended your first and last public input meetings. My thoughts on your four plans are:</p> <p>As happens many times in photography, you got it right the first time. Plan A has shorter inner boundaries and respects the four western districts, which I think they deserve as those folks built Mesa.</p> <p>Plans B and C look a little chaotic and contrived. Same for D, but it's better than B and C, even though it makes an awkward District #2.</p>
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# Mesa 2011 Redistricting Preliminary Plans



Commission  
Hearing  
August 25, 2011

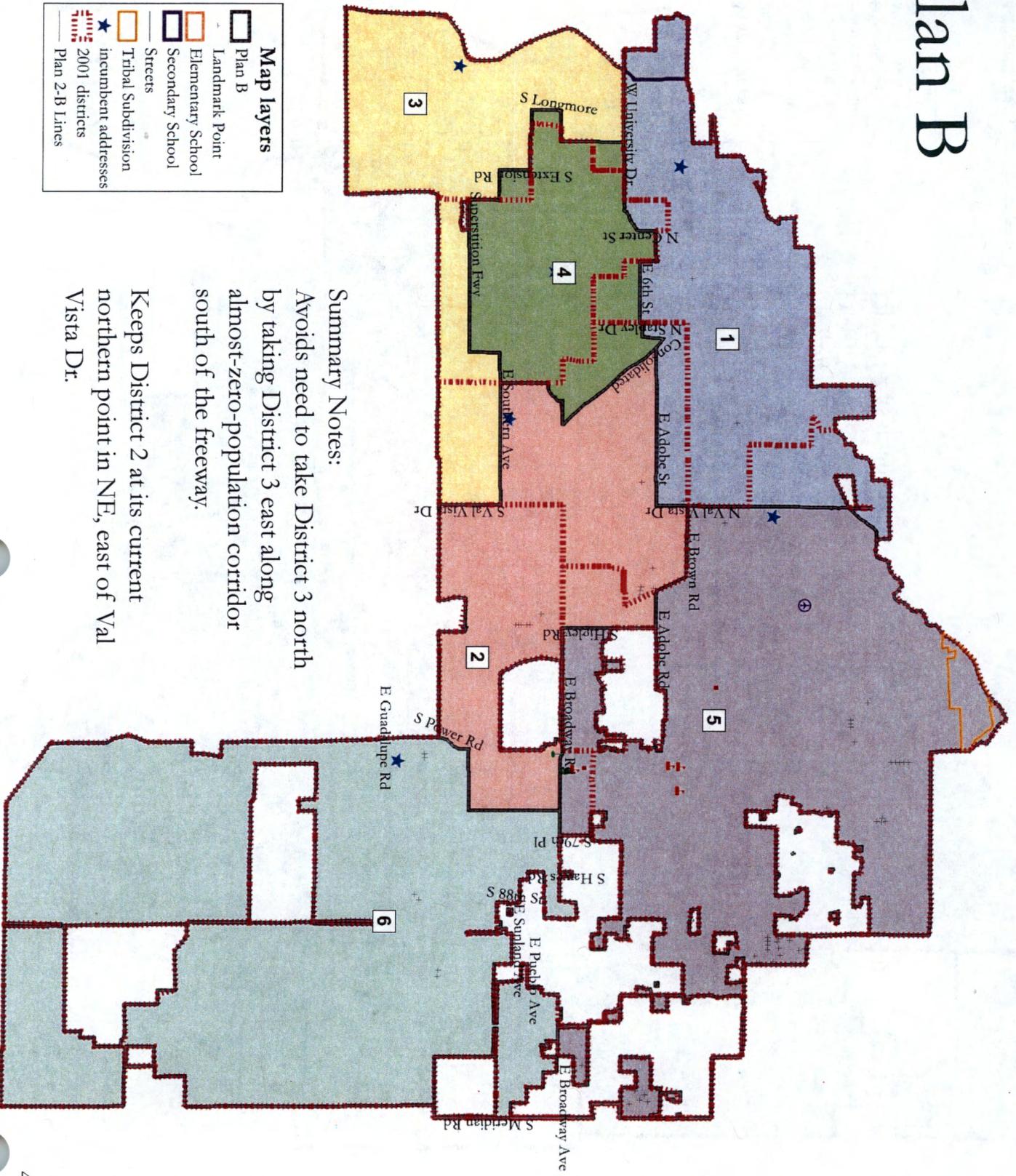
# Current Population Deviation by District



Mesa 2001 Districts and 2010  
Census population deviation



# Plan B

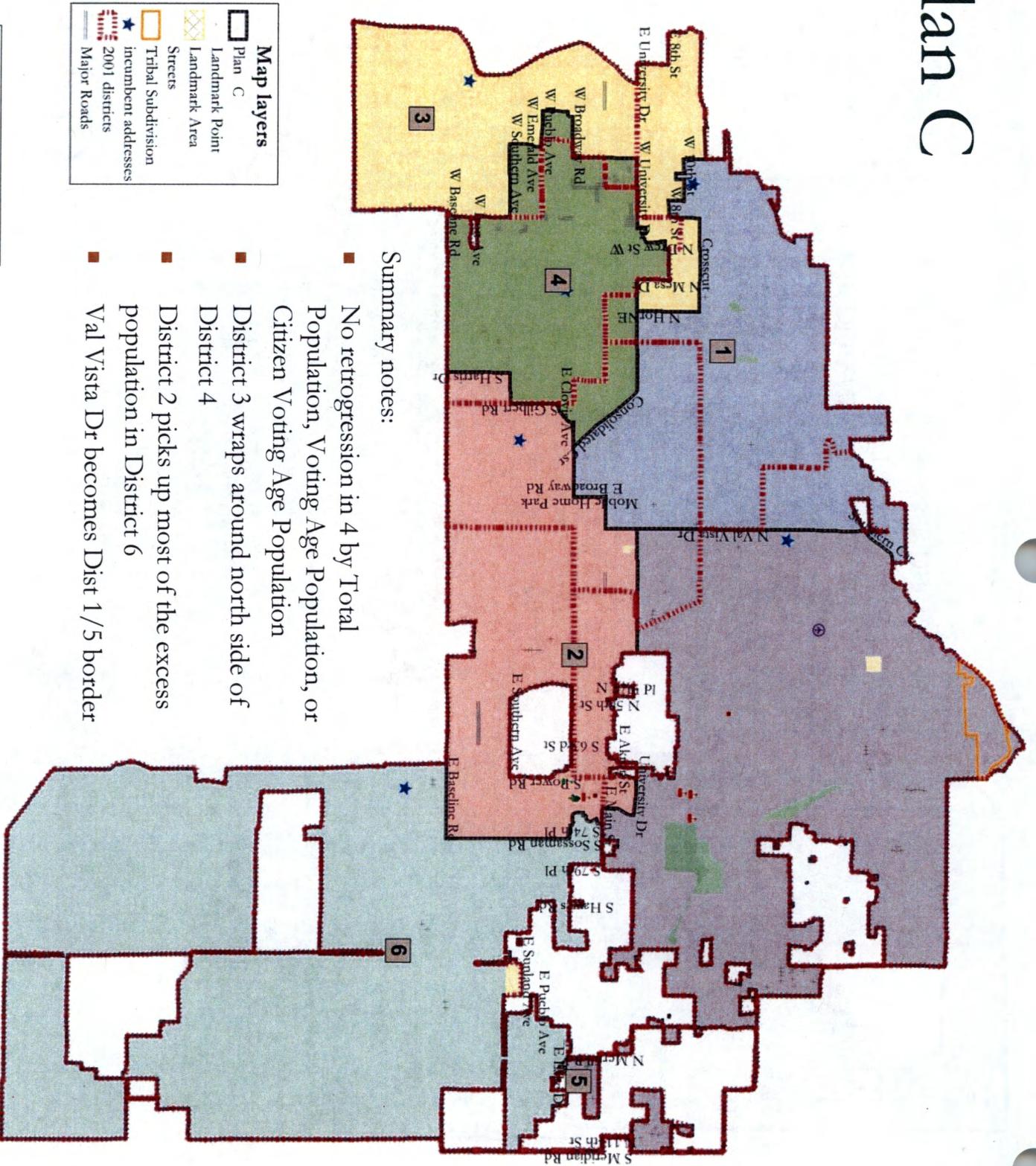


**Map layers**

- Plan B
- Landmark Point
- Elementary School
- Secondary School
- Streets
- Tribal Subdivision
- ★ incumbent addresses
- ★ 2001 districts
- Plan 2-B Lines

**Summary Notes:**  
 Avoids need to take District 3 north  
 by taking District 3 east along  
 almost-zero-population corridor  
 south of the freeway.  
 Keeps District 2 at its current  
 northern point in NE, east of Val  
 Vista Dr.

# Plan C



**Summary notes:**

- No retrogression in 4 by Total Population, Voting Age Population, or Citizen Voting Age Population
- District 3 wraps around north side of District 4
- District 2 picks up most of the excess population in District 6
- Val Vista Dr becomes Dist 1/5 border

**Map layers**

- Plan C
- Landmark Point
- Landmark Area
- Streets
- Tribal Subdivision
- ★ incumbent addresses
- 2001 districts
- Major Roads

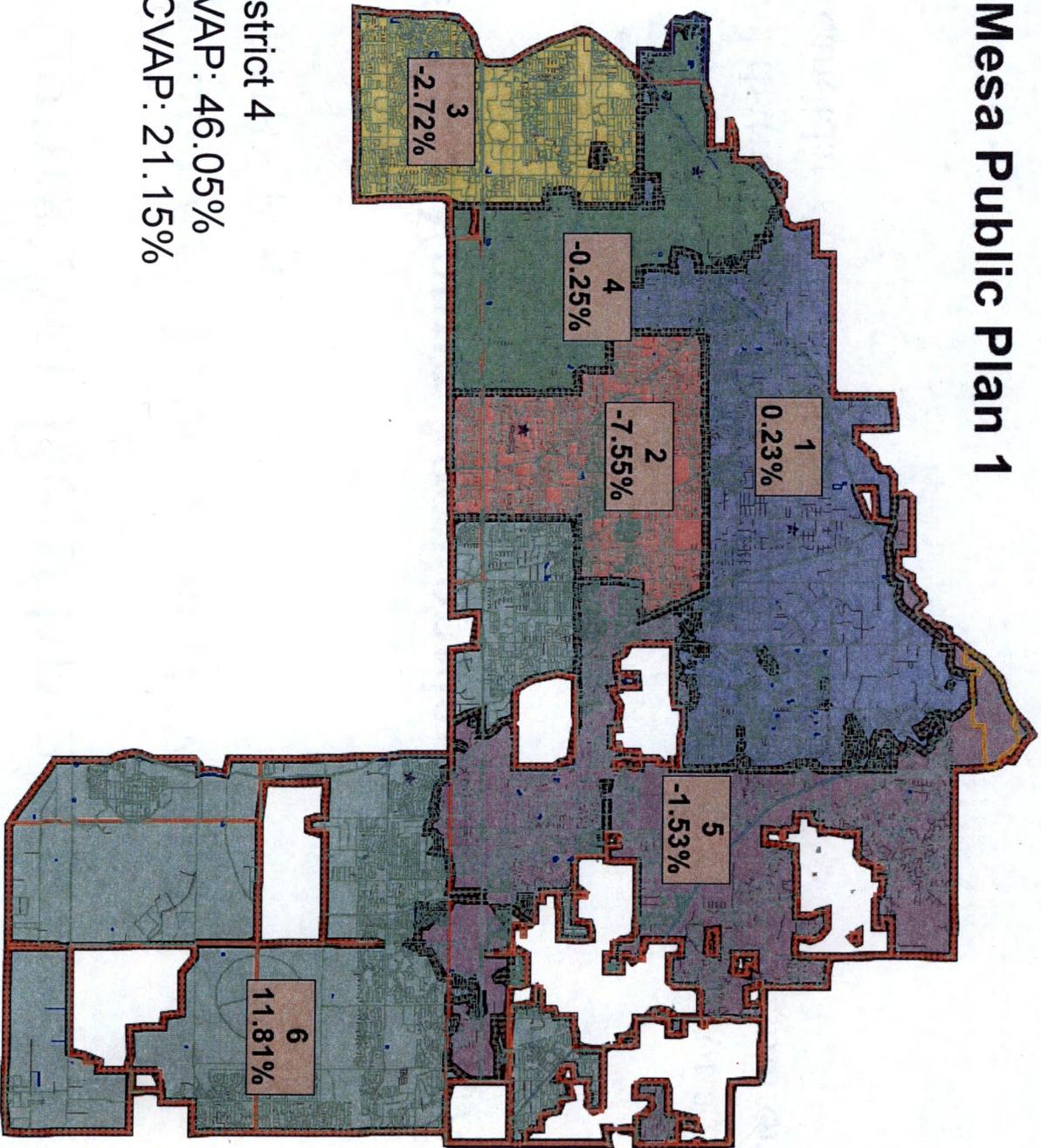


## Voting Rights Act Benchmarks

- **Hispanic Voting Age Population (HVAP): 54.4%**
  - HVAP = %H18+ Pop
- **Hispanic Citizen Voting Age Population (HCVAP): 25.4%**
- **Retrogression:** The reduction of minority population percentage of a district to a level that will make it more difficult or impossible for minority voters to elect candidates of their choice.

# Public Plan 1

## Mesa Public Plan 1

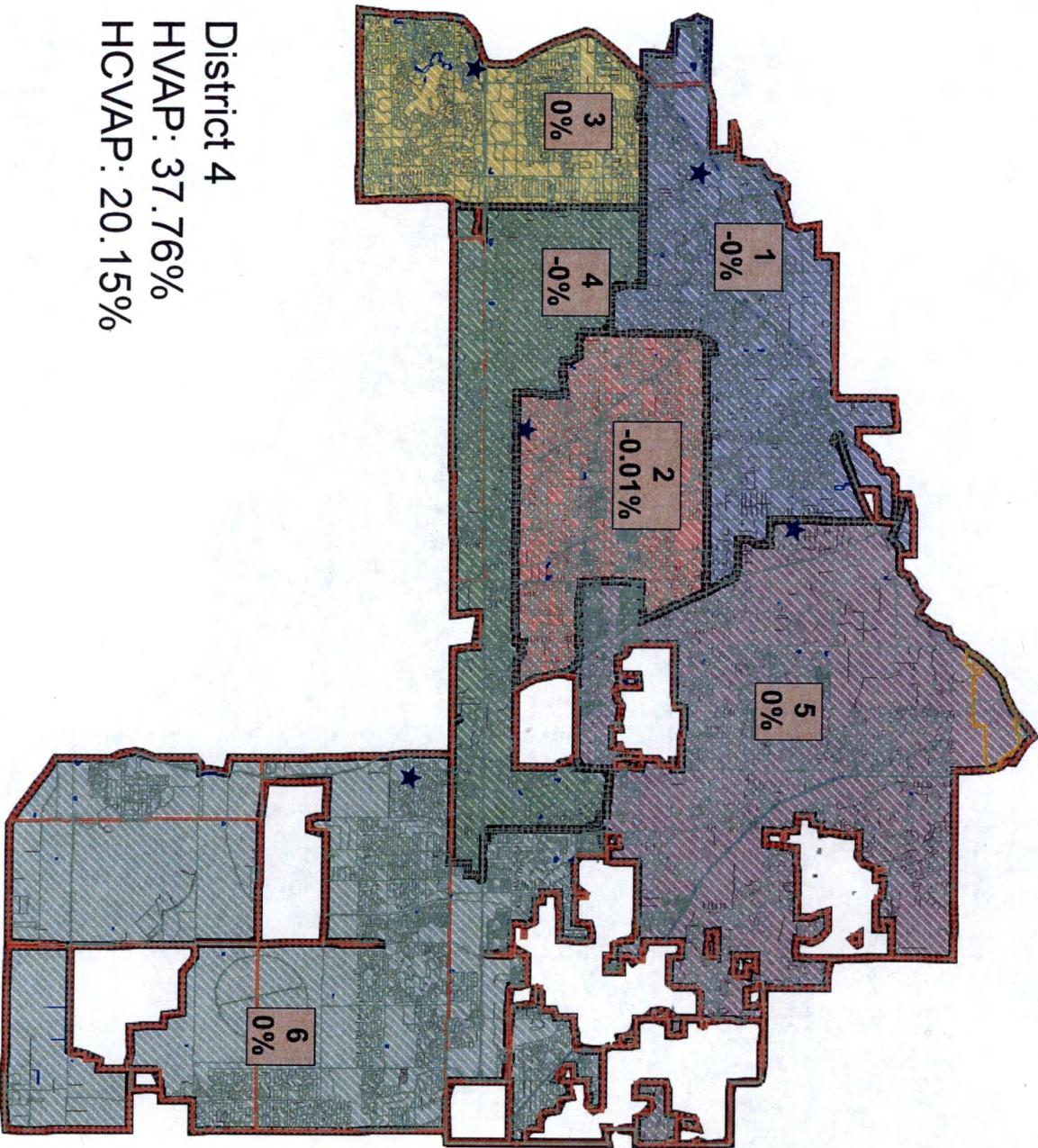


District 4

HVAP: 46.05%

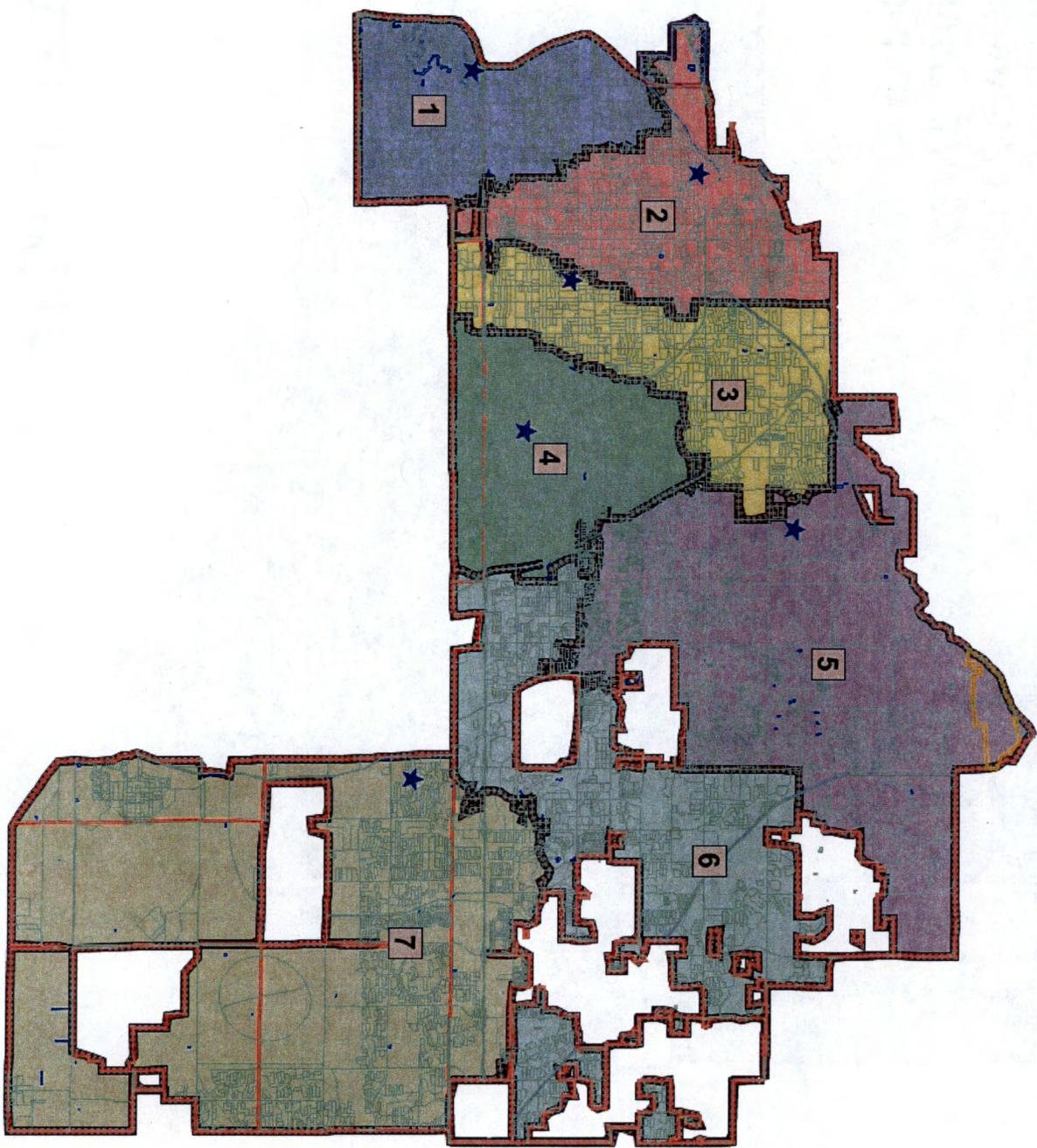
HCVAP: 21.15%

# Public Plan 2

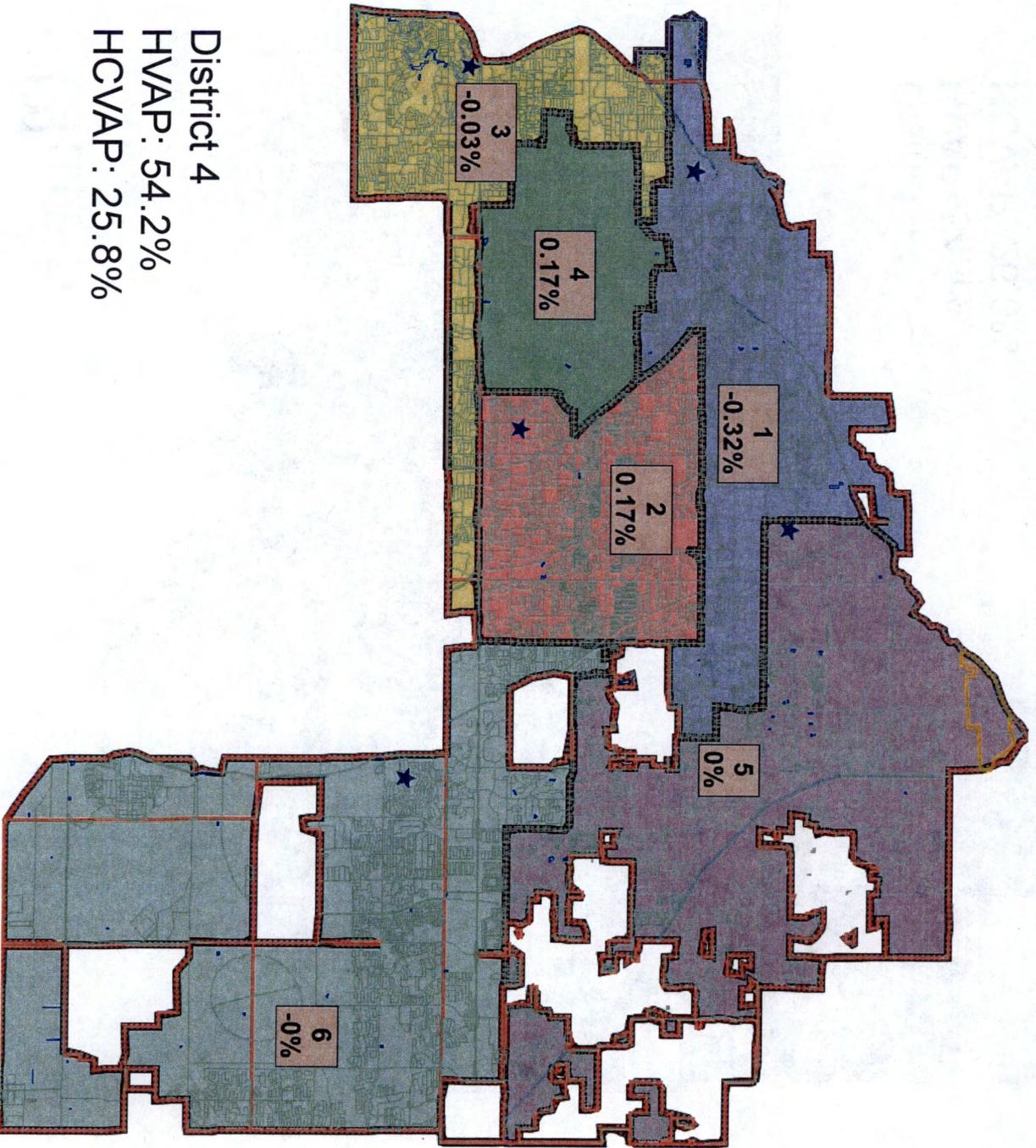


District 4  
HVAP: 37.76%  
HCVAP: 20.15%

# Public Plan 3

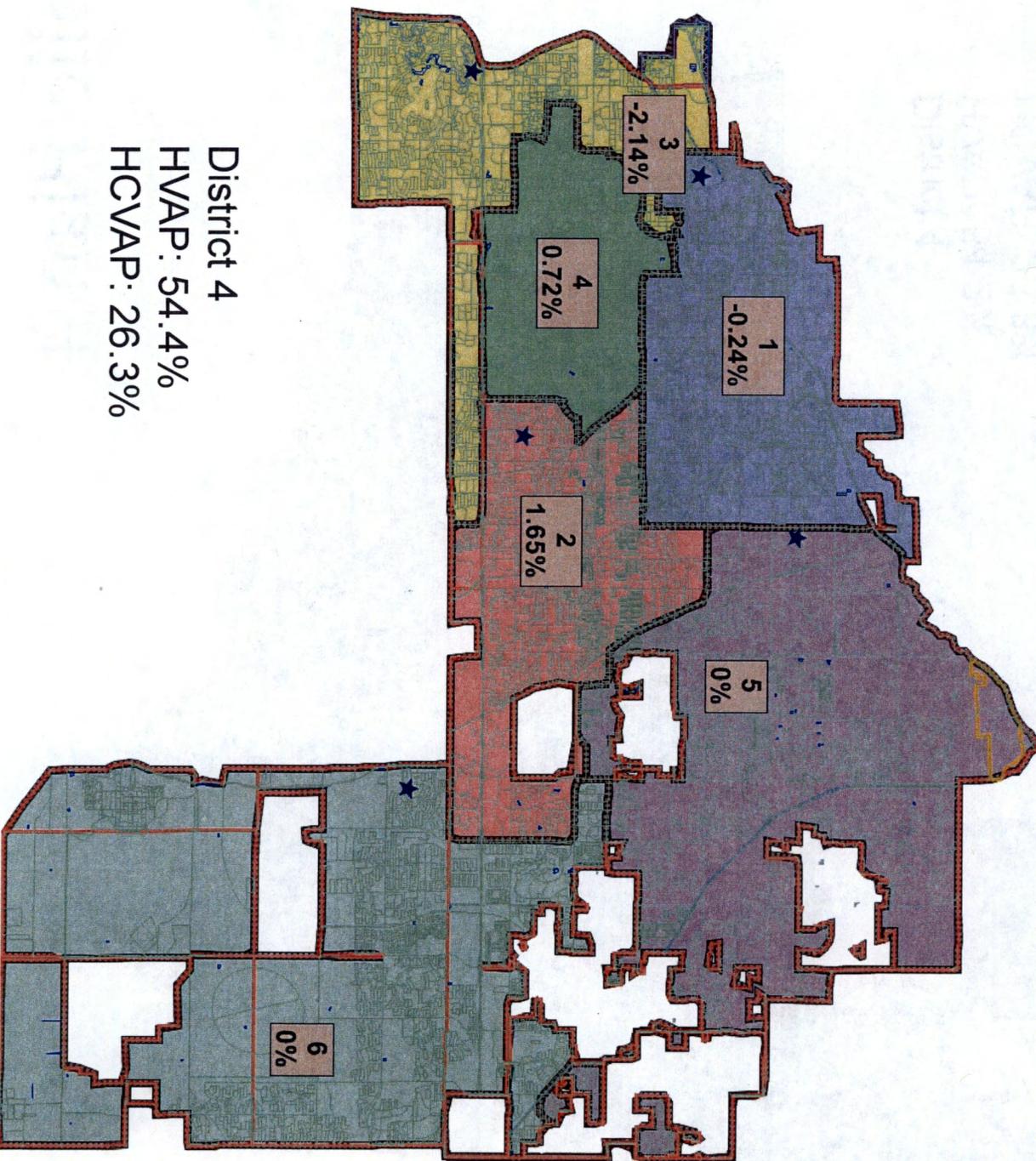


# Public Plan 4



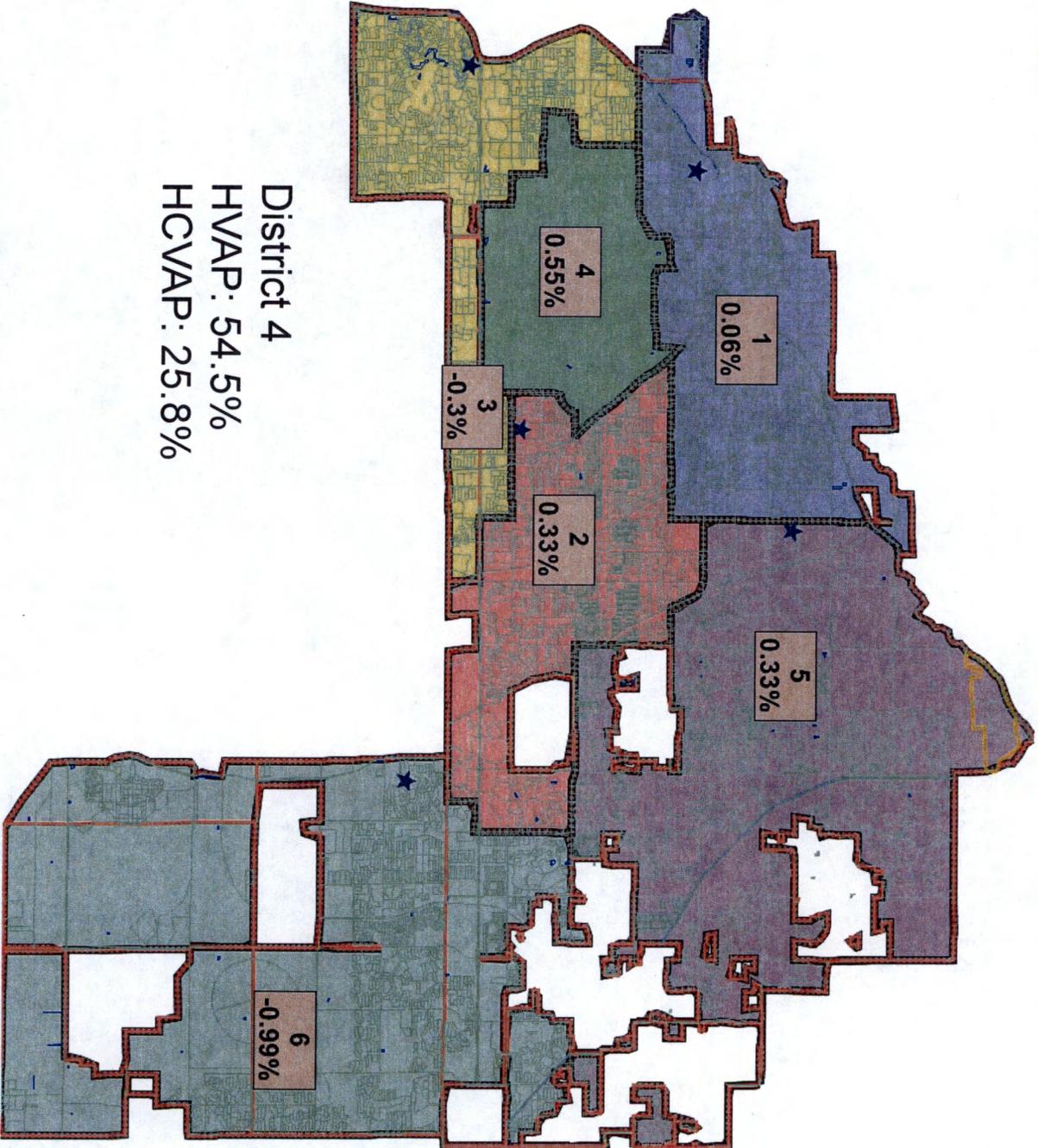
District 4  
HVAP: 54.2%  
HCVAP: 25.8%

# Public Plan 5



District 4  
HVAP: 54.4%  
HCVAP: 26.3%

# Public Plan 6



District 4  
HVAP: 54.5%  
HCVAP: 25.8%



To the Re-districting Committee,

I went to two of the community meetings (Dist. 1 & 4) and learned a lot from both of them. Every question I had was answered and the thought process and intent of the committee was explained very well. I was even trained on how to use the mapping tool online that allowed me to create this map. Without the training and without the information that was given at the meetings, I would not have had the opportunity to create this map or give an explanation of my thought process. Thank you for the work that you have done over the last few months and for relaying the information.

When I started to re-draw the map I was trying to split the city into quarters and decided that the quarters should be Northeast (Dist. 5), Southeast (Dist. 6), Southwest (Dist. 3), and Northwest Mesa (Dist. 1), districts 2 and 4 stay in the inner core of the city. In order to keep the current major community assets in each district, I looked at the 4 MCAs that are in districts 1, 3, 5 and 6 and made sure they stay in those districts. Those MCAs are 1) Riverview District, 3) Fiesta District, 5) Falcon Field Airport, 6) Gateway Area. In order to keep all the MCAs in the districts they are currently in, the only way district 3 could go was East like in plan B. The stretch along the US60 was the logical place for district 3 to take since it has the least amount of Hispanics in it. In order to keep as much of district 4 within its borders, I kept the Southeast corner of Gilbert and Southern in the district. This area was brought up as a community of interest in the district 4 meeting that I was at.

I looked at keeping district 4 from retrogression and keeping as much of the district within its current boundaries. I also wanted to keep the highest percentage of Hispanics in the surrounding districts. The current district percentage of Hispanics in district 4 is 61%, and the percentage on this map is 59.9%. Although this is a retrogression of -0.1%, this allowed districts 1 and 3 to keep the highest number of Hispanics in their districts while still accomplishing the other stated goals below.

I looked at keeping the council members in their current district. Since the city charter states that a council member can't be drawn out of their district, I made sure they weren't. I not only kept them in their district, I also tried to keep the new lines as far from their current residence as I could. That's why the northern border of district 3 continues along Southern until Lindsay where it then turns north. This also keeps a community of interest intact within district 2. I also wanted to make sure that the areas that district 3 was acquiring was split between district 1 and district 2. In order to keep Riverview (a MCA) in district 1, the district 3 boundaries can't go north of 8<sup>th</sup> street so I took the boundary on the north side of University, east and west of Dobson road, all the way down to 8<sup>th</sup> street. Although this takes a portion of a community of interest (within the boundaries of Mesa Grande Community Alliance), it was necessary in order to make everything else work and it takes the smallest area within the Alliance's border as possible. The reason I took this portion of district 1 was to keep district 3 along the Mesa/Tempe border since district 3 shares most of that border with Tempe.

I also looked at keeping the deviation of total population under 1% of the goal of 73,174. I was able to do this in all districts except for district 6 which was -1.7%. According to information I learned in the meetings, the DOJ allows up to 2% deviation and even greater if there is a solid argument of population growth in that district. District 6 is projected to have the most growth (Gateway Area) over the next 10 years.

Finally, I tried to keep the district lines as contiguous as possible to follow all the rules by the DOJ and the City. I was able to keep the lines as contiguous as possible and didn't deviate any further than any of the four options that were provided by the committee.

Thank you for your time, for sharing your knowledge, and for the opportunity to share my opinion.

Sincerely,  
Agustin (Augie) Gastelum

