

# PRESENTATION REDISTRICTING COMMISSION



**CITY OF COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND  
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA ITEM  
PRESENTATION**

**Prepared By:** Bill Gardiner  
Assistant City Manager

**Meeting Date:** 09/27/2022

**Presented By:** Robert Day, Chair  
Redistricting Commission

**Proposed Consent:** N/A

**Originating Department:** Mayor and Council

**Action Requested:** N/A

**Strategic Plan Objective:** Objective 6: Inspire and nurture a welcoming and inclusive community that encourages and embodies engagement, collaboration, and equity throughout our City.

**Background/Justification:**

The Redistricting Commission was established by Resolution 22-R-04 and has met nine times since May 23, 2022 to review its charge, collect and analyze Census and other data, engage a consultant, draft new district maps, and present the draft maps to the public. The draft maps, and other maps the Commission considered, are included in the draft report.

The report identifies some challenges the Commission addressed due to undercounting by the 2020 Census, particularly regarding students in the City. After obtaining more accurate data for the number of City residents, the Commission determined that redistricting is necessary to have equal districts. The Commission also obtained estimates on the completion dates and future population of residential developments under construction. The City Charter allows the City to make this type of adjustment to the population count when considering the new districts.

Using that information, the Commission reviewed more than a dozen draft maps created by the consultant and by a Commission member that created substantially equal districts. For the public presentations and the report, the Commission provided draft maps for three population scenarios: a draft map based on the 2020 Census data; a draft map based on the estimated number of new residents at the end of 2022; and a draft map based on the number of residents at the end of 2023. The City Charter requires that the sum of the population and actual voters (voters in either the immediately preceding city election or statewide election) be substantially equal in every district. Federal law has been interpreted to require districts to vary in population by less than five percent of the ideal population. The maps created by the Commission meet these standards. However, due to voting and housing patterns it was not possible to equalize the number of actual voters in every district while meeting the other criteria for districts.

The Commission held public meetings at Davis Hall and City Hall to review the Commission's charge and process, and to present the draft maps. The Commission took questions from in-person and online participants during both meetings and many of those questions are noted in the report. The consultant created a website with input from the Commission. The website contains the draft maps, an interactive map, and the ability to provide comments.

The presentation at the City Council Meeting will summarize the Commission's work and focus on the draft maps the Commission is presenting for the Council's consideration. The Commission is interested in Council feedback and questions after Council has had sufficient time to review the report and maps. With Council's feedback, the Commission can finalize their report unless Council provides additional direction.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Council authorized up to \$50,000 for the redistricting process. To date, the Commission has spent \$23,200.

**Council Options:**

The Commission does not expect Council action at this time. However, Council must approve new districts before the end of the year to allow enough time to prepare for the November 2023 election. Staff proposes this timeline for consideration:

- Worksession discussion on tonight's presentation on October 5 (and October 18 if needed);
- Council directs staff to draft an ordinance by October 18;
- Council introduces the ordinance for the new district plan on October 25;
- Public Hearing is held on November 8;
- Ordinance is adopted at one of the meetings between the Public Hearing and the final meeting of the year on December 13.

This schedule allows up to three meetings for Council discussion before deciding which plan to move forward. It also allows time between the Public Hearing and adoption if amendments are needed. Depending on whether Council would like the Commission to provide additional information, it could discharge the Commission in October upon receipt of the final report or continue to use the Commission until the new plan is adopted.

**Staff Recommendation:**

The Commission will take direction from the Council

**Recommended Motion: N/A****Attachments:**

September 12, 2022, presentation to the public.

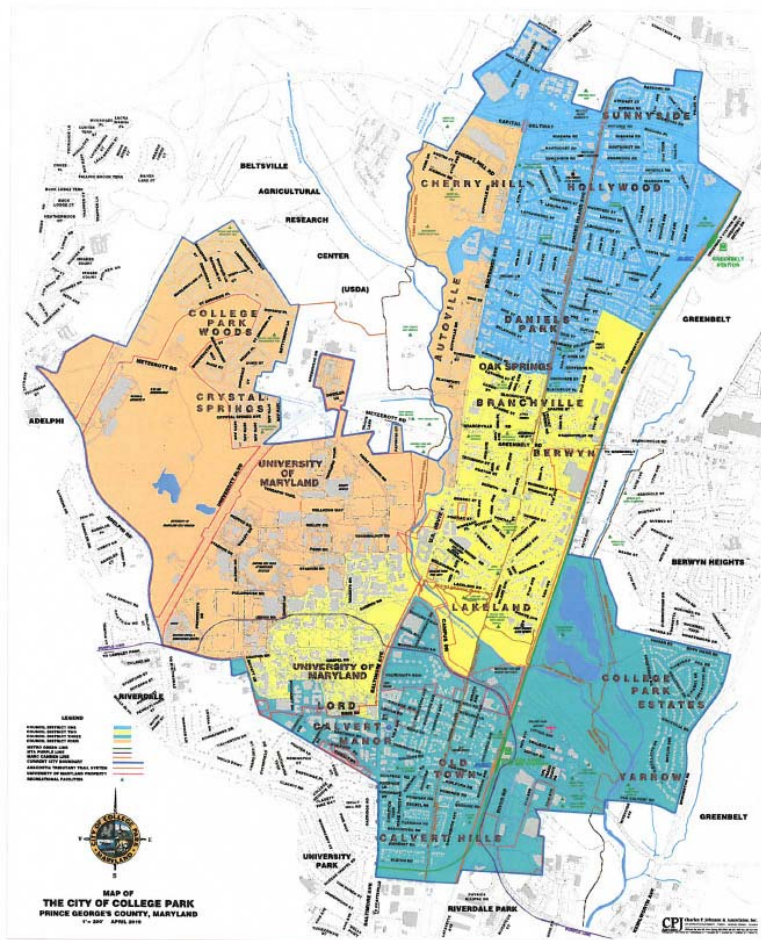
*Note: The draft report and the presentation to the Council will be provided at the Council Meeting and will be available on the City website. The Commission is meeting September 26<sup>th</sup> and there may be some adjustments to the maps that will be presented.*



# CITY OF **COLLEGE PARK**

## **Redistricting Commission**

September 12, 2022



# Presentation of Commission Work and Draft Maps

## Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Review and Approval of the Agenda
3. Introduction of Commission Members (Robert Day, Chair)
4. Presentation of the Commission's Charge from City Council and the Commission's Work (Robert Day, Chair; D.W. Rowlands, Vice-Chair)
5. Presentation of Draft New District Maps (D.W. Rowlands, Vice-Chair)
7. Public Questions and Comments
8. Adjourn



# Introduction of Commission Members

**ROBERT DAY**, Chair

**JORDAN DEWAR**, Vice-Chair

**D. W. ROWLANDS**, Vice-Chair

**BETTY COLONOMOS**

**VAL GRAHAM**

**ALAN HEW**

**JOHN KROUSE**

**FRITZ LEOPOLD**

**DELMAR NELSON**

**NATHANIEL RICKARD**

**MARILYN YANG**

## STAFF SUPPORT

**BILL GARDINER**  
Assistant City Manager

**JACOB VASSALOTTI**  
GIS Analyst/Engineering Technician

**SUELLEN FERGUSON**  
City Attorney



# Establishment of the Redistricting Commission

- Section C2-2 of the City Charter requires review of the council districts at least every 10 years soon after the federal census is available
- City Council established the Redistricting Commission in February 2022 and appointed members in April 2022





# Council Charge to the Redistricting Commission

- Review the combination of population and voters mandated by C2-2 to determine whether reapportionment is necessary.
- Hold at least two public hearings to receive views on the reapportionment
- Develop at least three redistricting plans to submit to the Mayor and Council





# Reapportionment Criteria

- Sum of the population and “actual voters” shall be substantially equal in each district

**Population** = residents counted in federal census, and:

- Residents erroneously omitted from the census
- Residents of structures built since the census
- Residents of property annexed into the City after the census

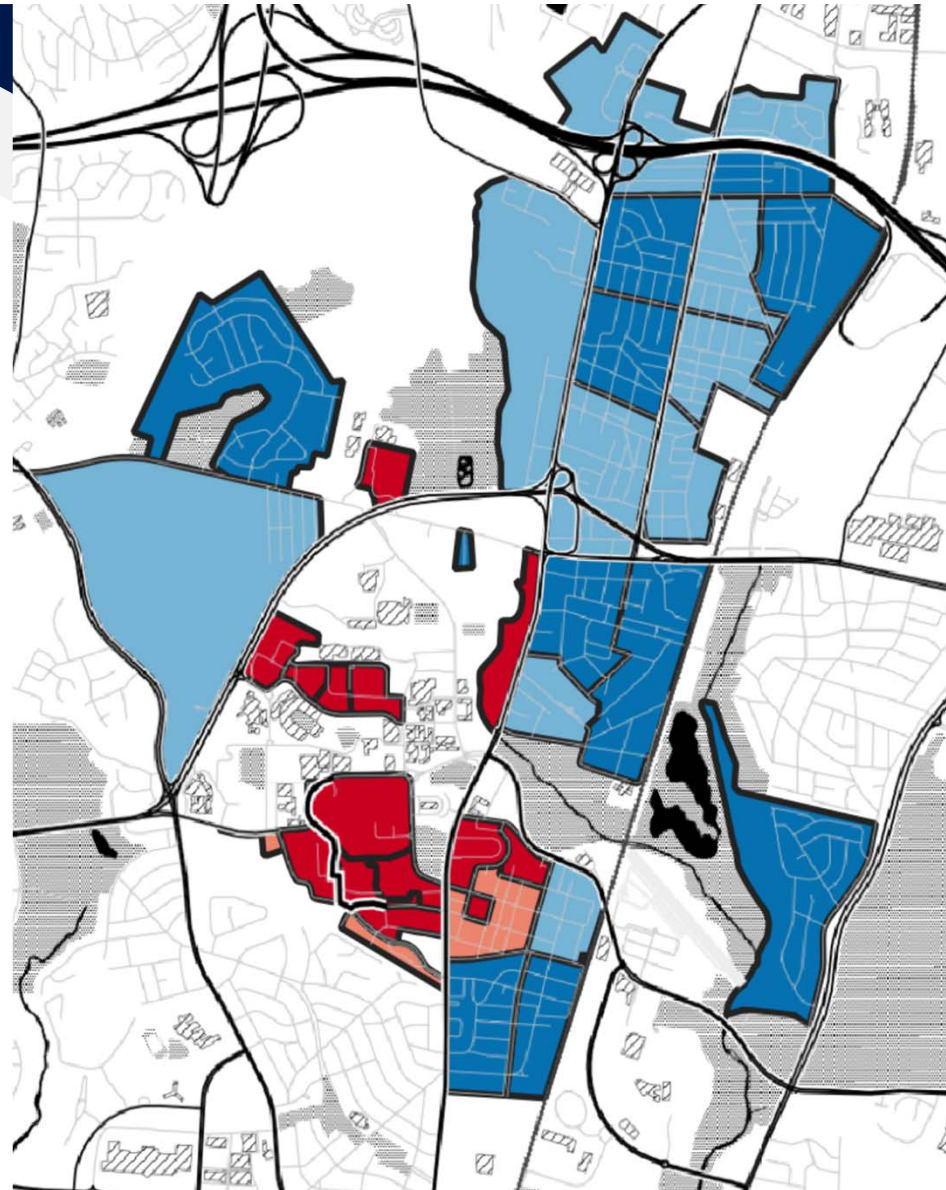
**Actual Voters** = residents who voted in either:

- the immediately preceding statewide election or
- the immediately preceding city election

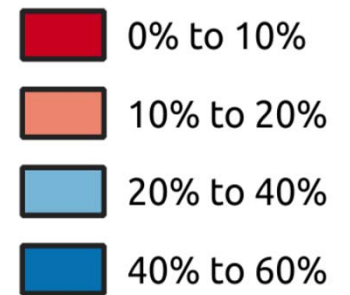


## Voting % by Neighborhood

- Large Variation in Voting Rates
- Difficult to Equalize “Actual Voters” per District



### % Voters

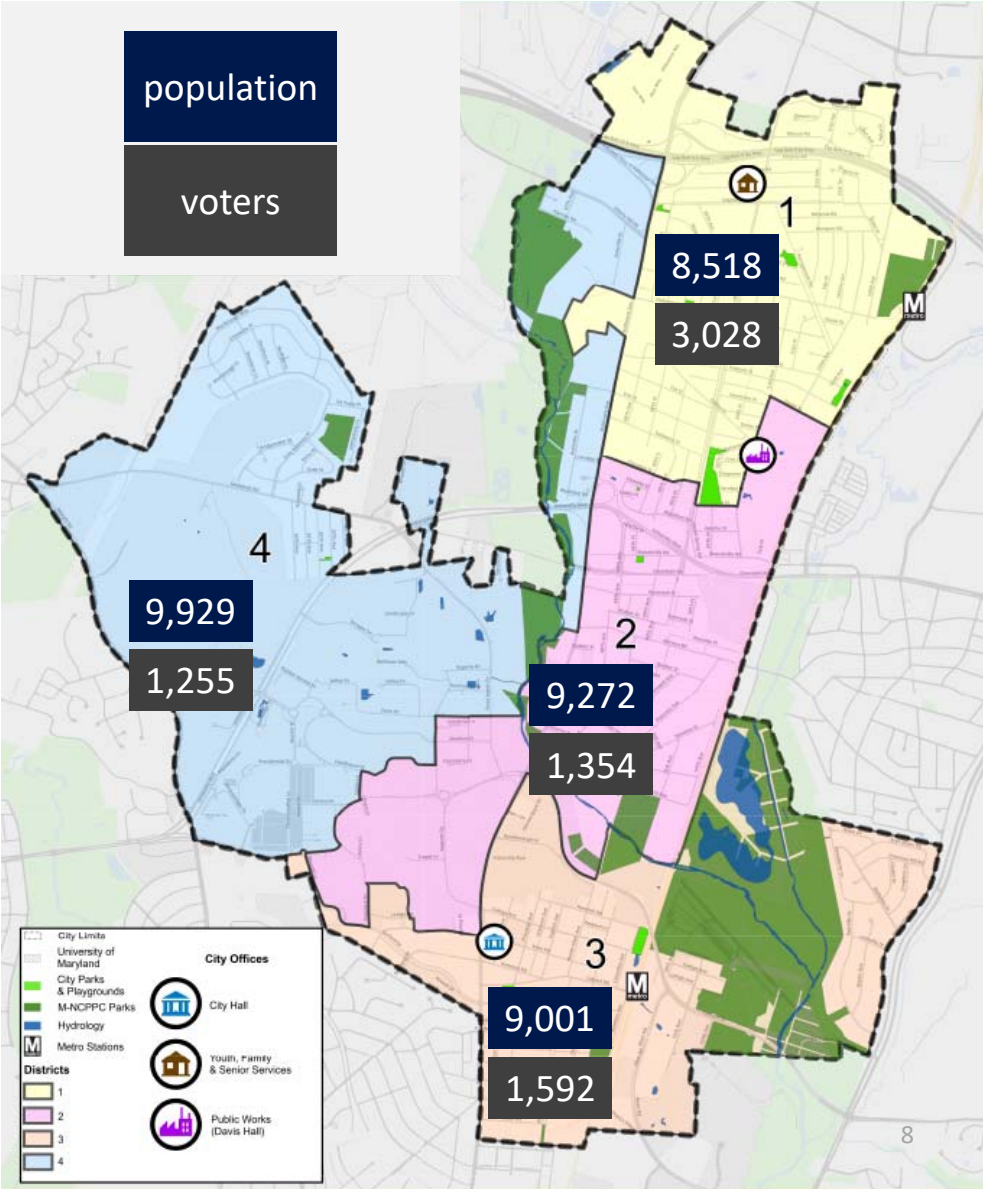


Overall, roughly 20% of residents vote, while 40% of residents not in dorms or student apartments vote.



# Current Districts using 2020 Census Data

Ideal: 9,180 1,807



# 2020 Census Population (no adjustments) and Actual Voters in Each District

| Scenario 0 (2010 Districts) |              |          |              |          |               |          |
|-----------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|---------------|----------|
| District                    | Population   |          | Voters       |          | Criterion     |          |
|                             | Value        | Error    | Value        | Error    | Value         | Error    |
| 1                           | 8,518        | -7.2%    | 3,028        | 67.5%    | 11,546        | 5.1%     |
| 2                           | 9,272        | 1.0%     | 1,354        | -25.1%   | 10,626        | -3.3%    |
| 3                           | 9,001        | -1.9%    | 1,592        | -11.9%   | 10,593        | -3.6%    |
| 4                           | 9,929        | 8.2%     | 1,255        | -30.6%   | 11,184        | 1.8%     |
| <b>Ideal</b>                | <b>9,180</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>1,807</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>10,987</b> | <b>-</b> |

# 2024 Population Estimates and Actual Voters in Each District

| Current Districts with 2024 Population Estimates |            |                         |        |                         |           |                         |
|--|------------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| District #                                       | Population | % difference from Ideal | Voters | % difference from Ideal | Criterion | % difference from Ideal |
| District 1                                       | 8,565      | -19%                    | 3028   | 68%                     | 11,593    | -7%                     |
| District 2                                       | 11,607     | 9%                      | 1354   | -25%                    | 12,961    | 4%                      |
| District 3                                       | 12,215     | 15%                     | 1592   | -12%                    | 13,807    | 11%                     |
| District 4                                       | 10,139     | -5%                     | 1255   | -31%                    | 11,394    | -8%                     |
| Ideal District                                   | 10,631     |                         | 1,807  |                         | 12,438    |                         |

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# The Commission determined that the City must redistrict.

What are the criteria to help determine the new district boundaries?

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# Factors to Consider— *in addition to population and actual voters*—for Reapportionment of Council Districts

- Commonality of local economic and social interests
- Geographic compactness
- Preservation of the core of existing districts
- Respect for the neighborhood
- Federal and State requirements





# **Presentation of Five Draft Council District Maps for Discussion**

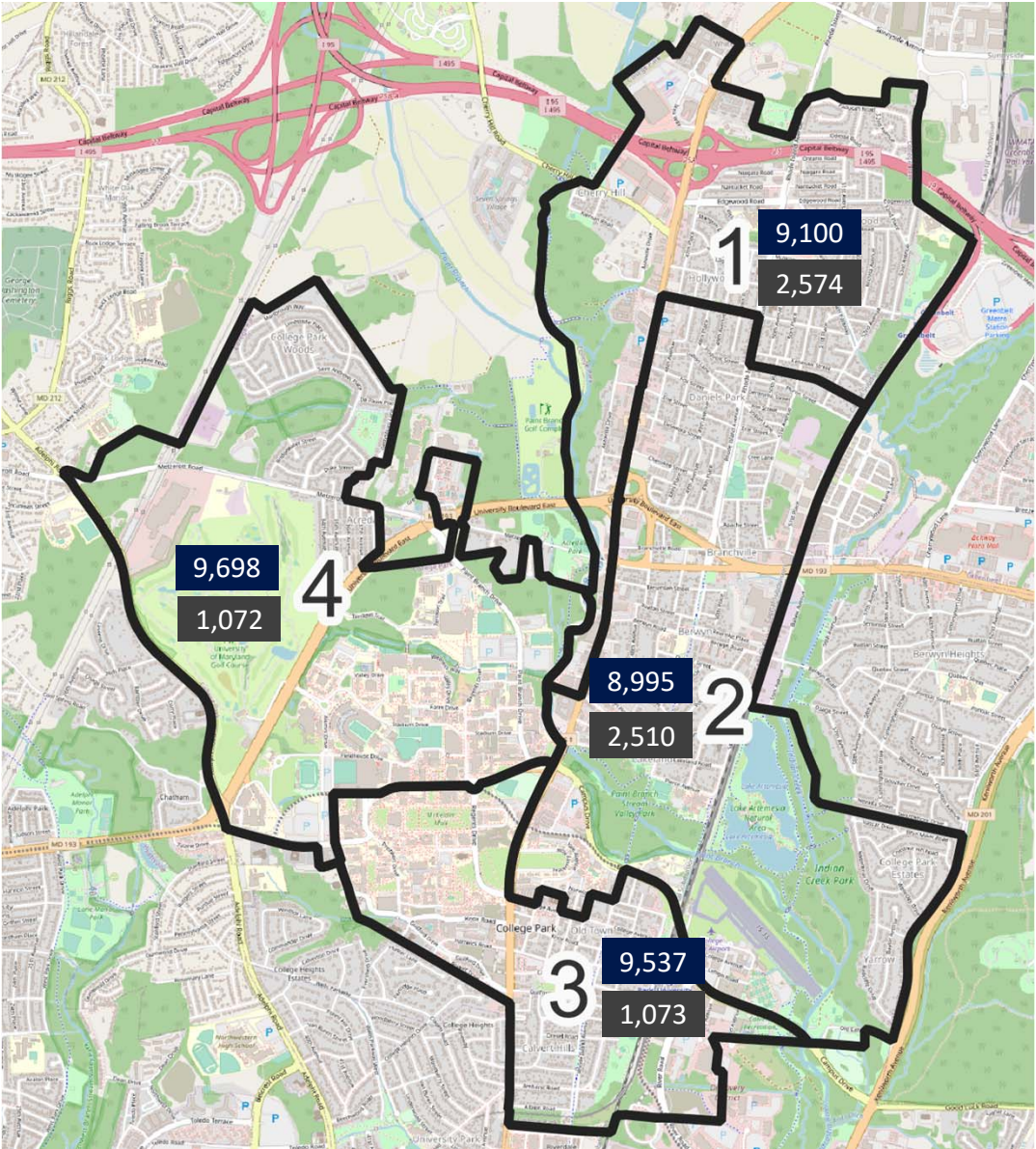
D.W. Rowlands, Vice-Chair



# Proposal 1 – 2020 Population

population

voters



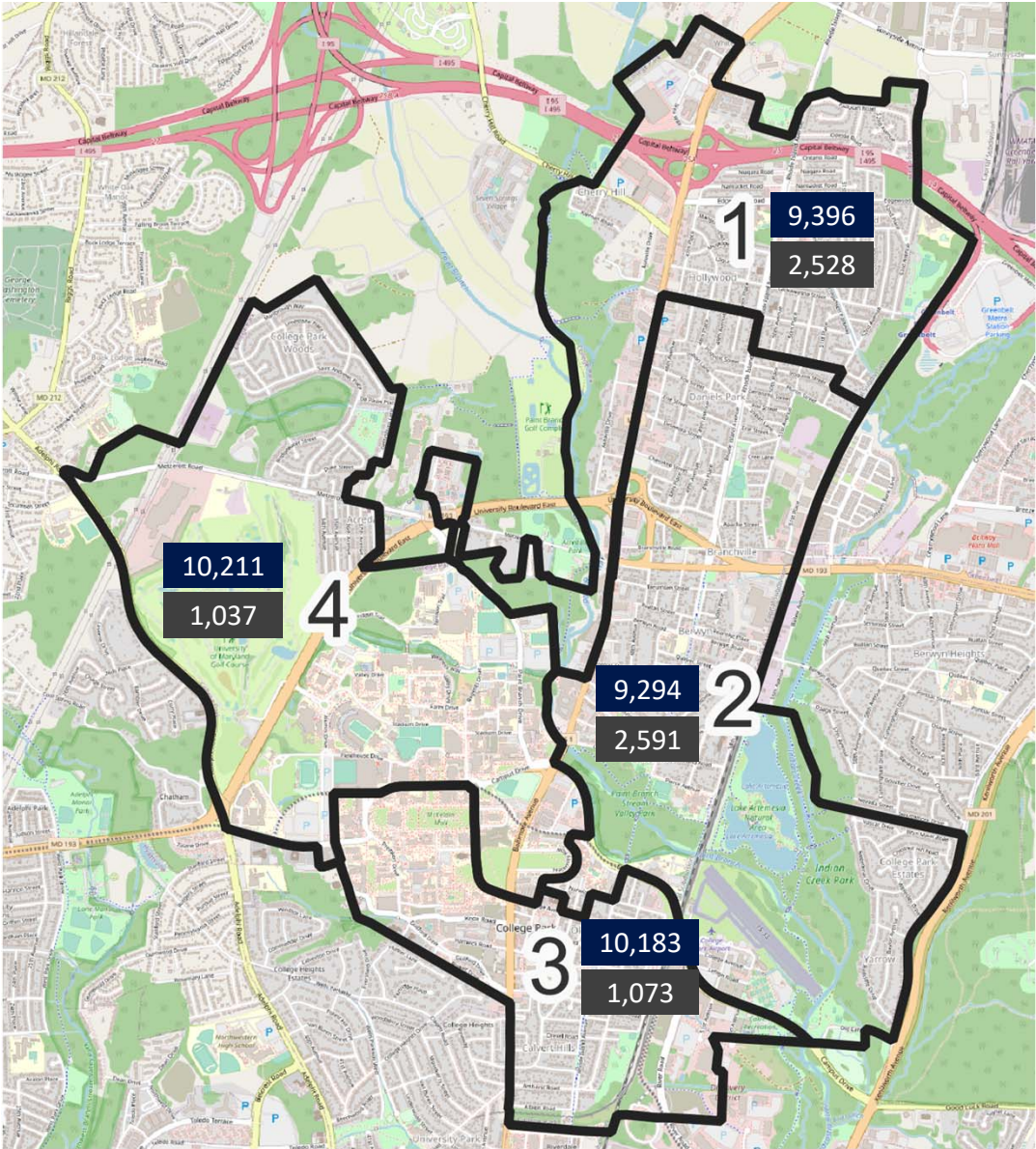
# Proposal 1 – 2020 Population

| District              | Population   | Population Error | Criterion     | Criterion Error |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| District 1            | 9,100        | -2.5%            | 11,674        | 4.8%            |
| District 2            | 8,995        | -3.6%            | 11,505        | 3.3%            |
| District 3            | 9,537        | 2.2%             | 10,610        | -4.8%           |
| District 4            | 9,698        | 3.9%             | 10,770        | -3.3%           |
| <b>Ideal District</b> | <b>9,333</b> |                  | <b>11,140</b> |                 |





# Proposal 2 – 2022 Population



## Proposal 2 – 2022 Population

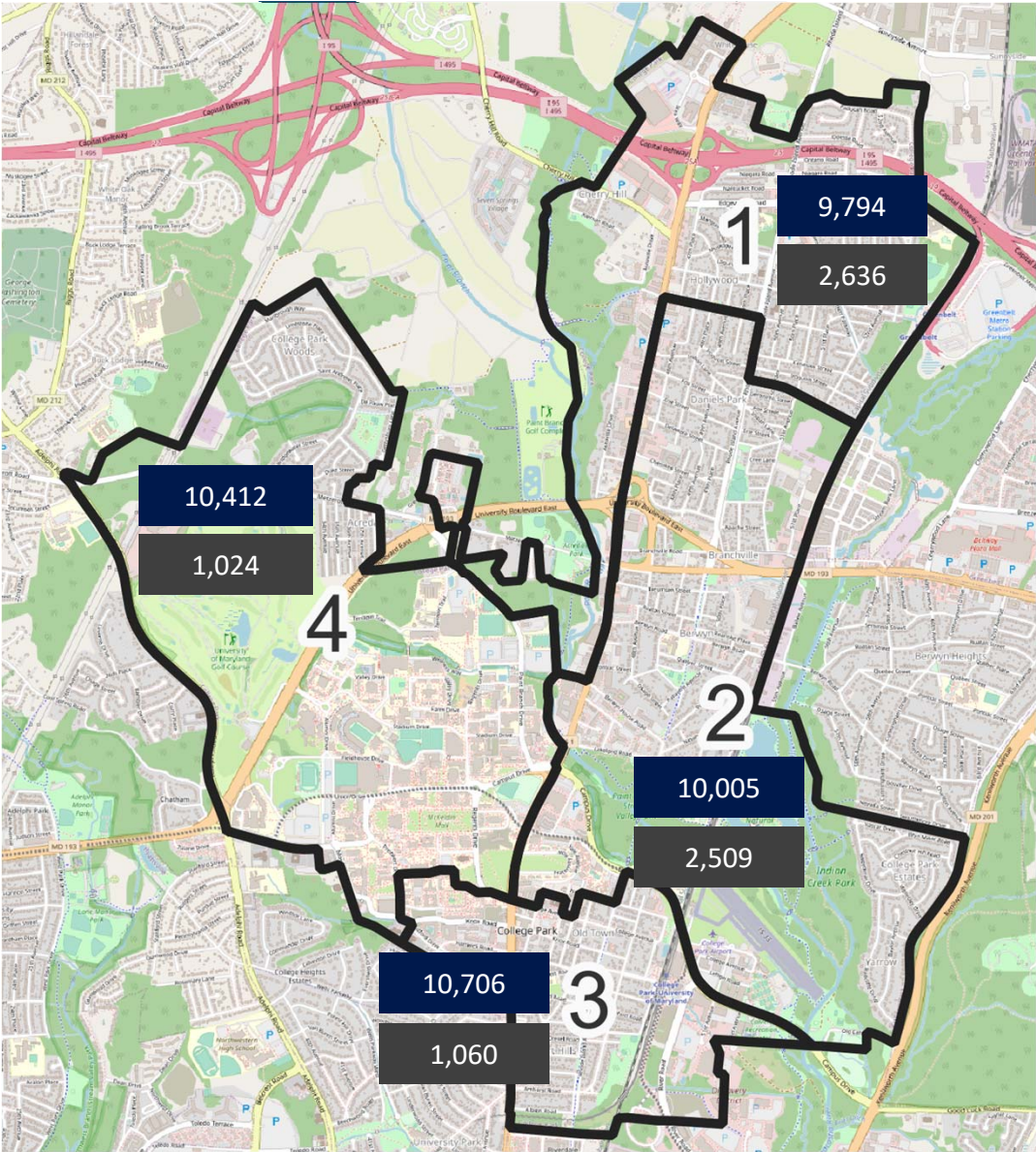
| District              | Population   | Population Error | Criterion     | Criterion Error |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| District 1            | 9,396        | –3.8%            | 11,924        | 3.0%            |
| District 2            | 9,294        | –4.9%            | 11,885        | 2.6%            |
| District 3            | 10,183       | 4.2%             | 11,256        | –2.8%           |
| District 4            | 10,211       | 4.5%             | 11,248        | –2.9%           |
| <b>Ideal District</b> | <b>9,771</b> |                  | <b>11,578</b> |                 |





# Proposal 3A – 2023 Population

| population |
|------------|
| voters     |



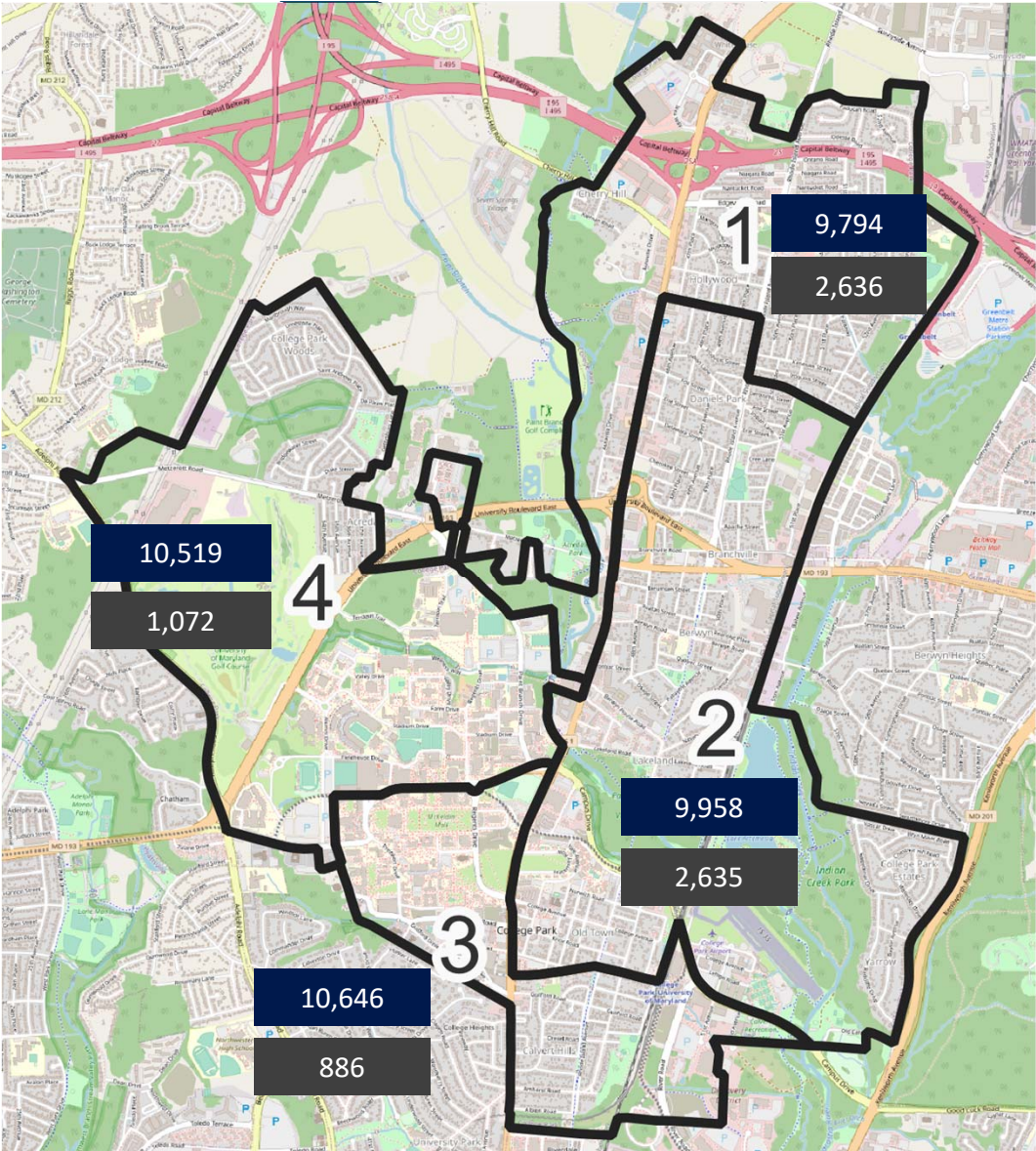
# Proposal 3A – 2023 Population

| District              | Population    | Population Error | Criterion     | Criterion Error |
|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| District 1            | 9,794         | –4.3%            | 12,430        | 3.3%            |
| District 2            | 10,005        | –2.2%            | 12,514        | 4.0%            |
| District 3            | 10,706        | 4.7%             | 11,766        | –2.2%           |
| District 4            | 10,412        | 1.8%             | 11,436        | –5.0%           |
| <b>Ideal District</b> | <b>10,229</b> |                  | <b>12,037</b> |                 |





# Proposal 3B – 2023 Population



# Proposal 3B – 2023 Population

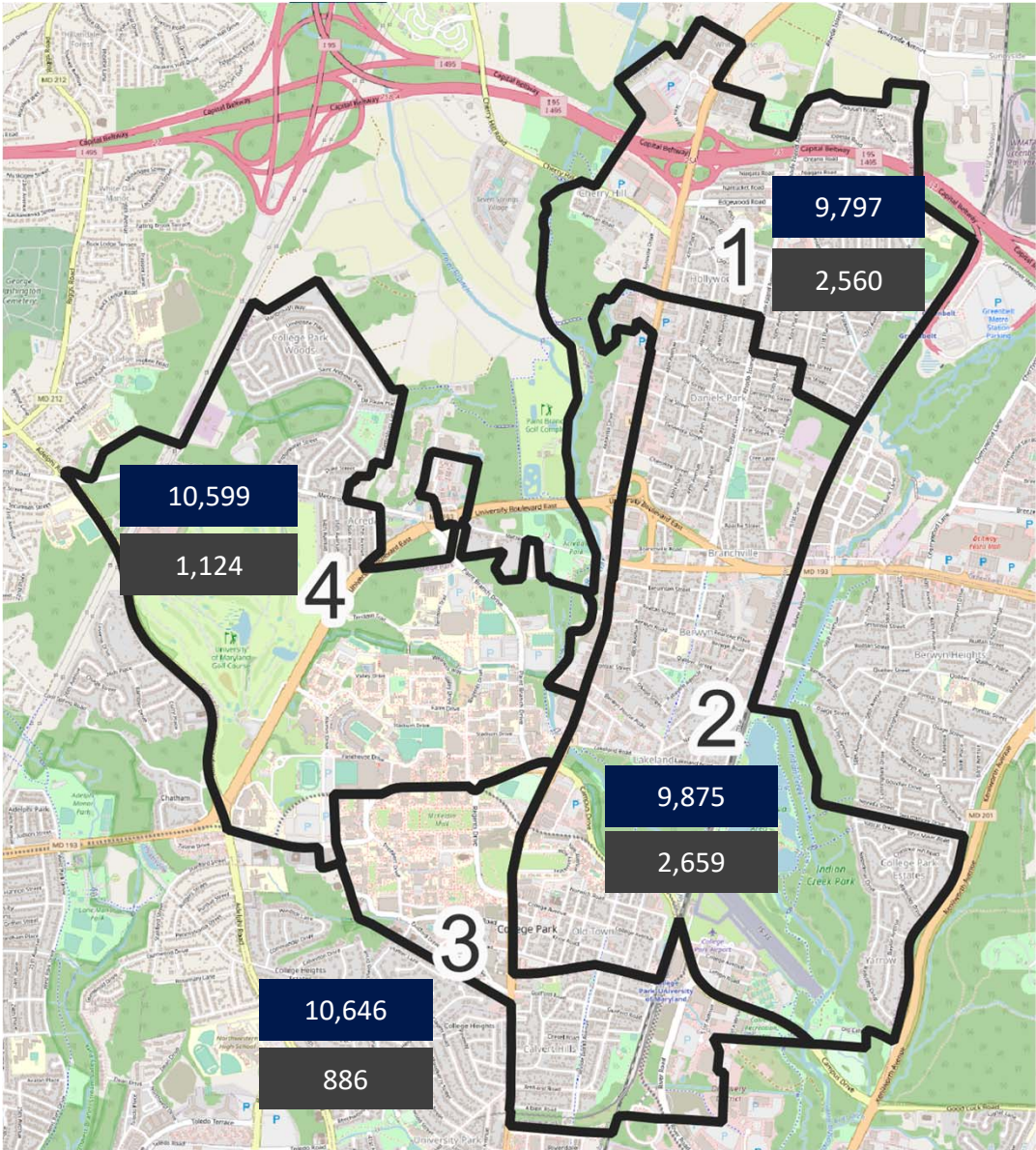
| District              | Population    | Population Error | Criterion     | Criterion Error |
|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| District 1            | 9,794         | –4.3%            | 12,430        | 3.3%            |
| District 2            | 9,958         | –2.7%            | 12,593        | 4.6%            |
| District 3            | 10,646        | 4.1%             | 11,532        | –4.2%           |
| District 4            | 10,519        | 2.8%             | 11,591        | –3.7%           |
| <b>Ideal District</b> | <b>10,229</b> |                  | <b>12,037</b> |                 |





# Proposal 3C – 2023 Population

| population |
|------------|
| voters     |



# Proposal 3C – 2023 Population

| District              | Population    | Population Error | Criterion     | Criterion Error |
|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| District 1            | 9,797         | –4.2%            | 12,357        | 2.7%            |
| District 2            | 9,875         | –3.5%            | 12,534        | 4.1%            |
| District 3            | 10,646        | 4.1%             | 11,532        | –4.2%           |
| District 4            | 10,599        | 3.6%             | 11,723        | –2.6%           |
| <b>Ideal District</b> | <b>10,229</b> |                  | <b>12,037</b> |                 |





## Questions, Discussion, and Next Steps

# Visit [collegetparkmdredistricting2022.com](https://collegetparkmdredistricting2022.com)

- View all draft maps
- Use the interactive map to see additional information
- **Provide your comments to the Commission**

**The Redistricting Commission will present its report  
to the Council on Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**

