



Districts for the Selected Municipality

BEN-3 (PDF)
Population: 4,626
Members: 1

Ideal = 4287

3900

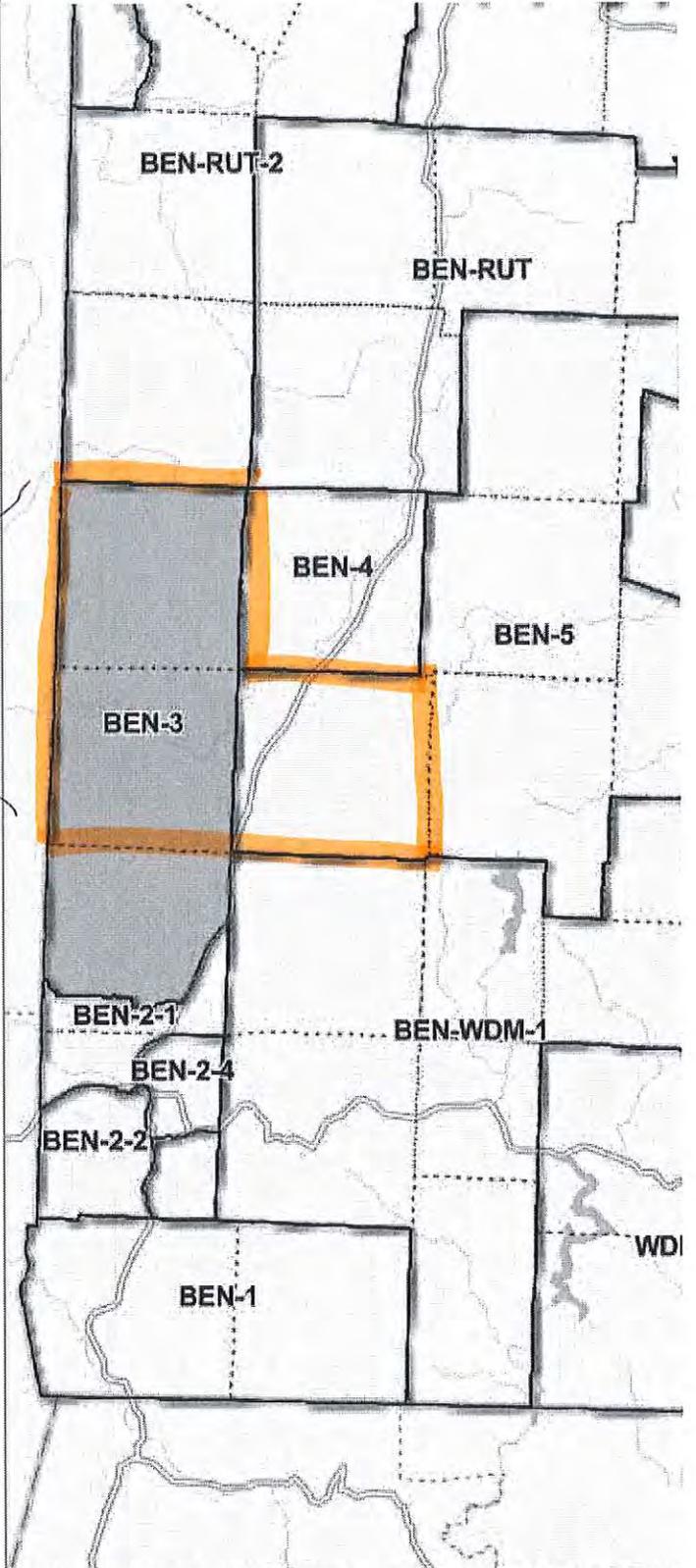
*Emailed as an Attachment
From Arlington BCA*

2022 House Districts Proposed by the Legislative Apportionment Board.

Districts

Map Details

2022 DISTRICTS - Tentative Apportionment Board prc



VCGI, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, FAO, METI/

11/3/21

To: The Vermont Apportionment Board
From: Town of Bethel Board of Civil Authority

The Bethel Board of Civil Authority opposes the proposed changes to our current district (Windsor-Rutland). We do so for three reasons:

- 1) the proposed changes violate the districting criteria in several ways.
- 2) the changes would have a negative impact on Bethel's right to effective representation
- 3) the changes would have a negative impact on the district's right to effective representation

Criterion One requires districts be as close as possible to an ideal of one representative for a population of 4287 with an acceptable deviation of up to 10%. Windsor-Rutland, as it currently stands, has 4263 voter for a deviation of -0.6%. The proposed change creates two districts for Bethel, one with a deviation of -4.76% and one with -3.78%. The proposal is LESS fair than the current status. The proposed districts represent a wider disparity from the ideal population than the current district. The current district is a mere -0.6% off from the ideal.

Current:	Proposed:	
<u>WDR-RUT</u>	<u>RUT-13</u>	<u>ADD-WSR-1</u>
-0.6%	-3.78%	-4.76%

Criterion Two dictates that districts be geographically compact and contiguous. Further, "This criterion aims to foster effective representation by ensuring that representatives are accessible to the people they represent." The current Windsor-Rutland district is comprised of four towns all accessible through major state highways (Routes 107 and 100) without any major mountains in the way. It is compact and contiguous. Proposed district ADD-WSR-1 is not compact nor easily accessible throughout. The distance from Bethel to Ripton far exceeds that of Bethel to Pittsfield or Rochester. Plus, to get to Ripton from Bethel would require going over two major mountain ranges, or to skip one major mountain by staying on major highways one would have to travel out of the proposed district into a town that is already currently in Windsor-Rutland. The small portion of Bethel proposed to be in Rut-13 has no direct routes to Bridgewater and would require driving over Killington. Again, as the roads go it is not contiguous nor accessible. The travel distance and travel between Bethel and either Ripton or Bridgewater is untenable and be hard to yield effective representation to all towns in those proposed districts.

The proposed districts are less contiguous than the current district, with each of the proposed districts containing a greater number of towns or portions of towns than is currently the case.

Current:	Proposed:	
<u>WDR-RUT</u>	<u>RUT-13</u>	<u>ADD-WSR-1</u>
Bethel	Bethel (part)	Bethel (part)
Stockbridge	Stockbridge	Rochester
Pittsfield	Pittsfield	Hancock

Hancock	Killington	Granville
	Mendon (part)	Ripton
	Bridgewater	

The proposed district is less compact than the proposed districts. It is nearly three times as far from the furthest points in the proposed districts than our current district.

Current:	Proposed:	
<u>WDR-RUT</u>	<u>RUT-13</u>	<u>ADD-WSR-1</u>
Bethel-Rochester	Bethel-Bridgewater	Bethel-Ripton
18 miles	34 miles	35 miles

Criterion Three “dictates that districts should follow the existing boundaries of counties, towns and other political subdivisions”. Dividing Bethel’s 1942 voters into two districts violates this criteria. The proposed districts unnecessarily divide the Town of Bethel so that Bethel residents will have different representatives depending on their specific address. The current district maintains the political integrity of the political subdivisions. The town of Bethel is small enough that it must be combined with other communities to achieve the necessary district population. Therefore dividing the town is unnecessary and detrimental to the interests of the Town.

Criterion Four requires “recognition and maintenance of patterns of geography, social interaction, trade, political ties and common interests”. The towns of Bethel, Stockbridge and Pittsfield have multiple generations of social interaction due to them all attending the same school district (Whitcomb High) until only recently. Numerous groups and organizations serve these same towns including the food shelf, and the Rotary Club. Bethel residents are regular participants in Rochester’s arts community. Rochester and Stockbridge share a school district. Stockbridge and Pittsfield residents work and play in Bethel. And all four towns share the White River and common recreation areas, activities, and groups. Because of the river, the four towns share a number of common challenges and opportunities. Dividing the Windsor-Rutland district would go against these patterns. Dividing Bethel even more so. Adding in towns that are difficult to get to exacerbates this disconnect. Bethel and Ripton and/or Bridgewater have no established patterns.

Further, the proposed districts are less accessible geographically than the current district. Both of the proposed districts are divided by two mountain ranges. In contrast, the current district shares a common river valley and does not require crossing a mountain range. Additionally, the proposed districts are less accessible using Class 1 State Highways.

Current:	Proposed:	
<u>WDR-RUT</u>	<u>RUT-13</u>	<u>ADD-WSR-1</u>
VT Rte 107	VT Rte 107	VT Rte 107
VT Rte 100	VT Rte 100	VT Rte 100
	VT Rte 4	VT Rte 135

Other routes require travel on Class 2 or 3 roads and are more difficult to navigate, especially during the winter months.

Criterion Five requires proposals to consider “incumbencies”. The current representative lives in Bethel with deep connections to Stockbridge, Pittsfield, and Rochester. A representative from Ripton or Bridgewater would have no connection to Bethel nor easy access, thus negatively impacting Bethel’s representation. Given the size, shape, and geography of the proposed districts, it would be nearly impossible for one representative to be known by citizens of the district.

Dividing Bethel into two arbitrary districts with 1585 voters in one and 357 in the other and connecting them with towns that are geographically challenging to get to, and with whom they have no established patterns of interaction, trade, political ties or common interests, and which would not be, for Bethel as a whole, remotely “compact” would have a serious adverse effect on Bethel’s right to effective representation.

Dividing Windsor-Rutland district would go against established patterns and interests and would contribute to a lack of cohesion within the upper White River valley. This would negatively impact these towns’ ability to continue cooperation on current initiatives, and by having two different representatives for this historically linked region, would hamper effective representation.

For these reasons, the Bethel Board of Civil Authority is opposed to the reapportionment proposal and recommends retaining Windsor-Rutland, as it currently exists.

WINDHAM 4-1

That portion of the town of Brattleboro encompassed within a boundary beginning at the point where the boundary line of Brattleboro and the town of Dummerston intersects with Pleasant Valley Road; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of Pleasant Valley Road to the intersection of Meadowbrook Road; then northeasterly along the southeasterly side of the centerline of Meadowbrook Road to the intersection of Upper Dummerston Road; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of Upper Dummerston Road to the intersection of East Orchard Street; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of East Orchard Street to the intersection of Orchard Street; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of Orchard Street to the intersection of VT Route 9; then westerly along the northern side of the centerline of VT 9 to the intersection of Guilford Street; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of Guilford Street to the intersection of Maple Street; then easterly along the southern side of the centerline of Maple Street to the westerly boundary of tax map parcel 00110367.000; then southerly along the western side of the western boundary of tax map parcels 00110367.000 and 00110368.000; then westerly along the north side of the southern boundary of tax parcel 00110369.000 to tax map parcel 00110378.000; then north easterly along the eastern side of the easterly boundary of tax parcel 00110378.000 following the parcel boundary to Guilford Street; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of Guilford Street to the boundary of the town of Guilford; then westerly along the town line of Guilford to the boundary of the town of Marlboro; then northerly along the town line of Marlboro to the boundary of Dummerston; then easterly along the town line of Dummerston to the point of beginning.

*Tax parcel numbers are as of April 1, 2020

WINDHAM 4-2

That portion of the Town of Brattleboro to the south of a boundary beginning at the Connecticut River at the Whetstone Brook; then westerly along the southern side of the centerline of the Whetstone Brook to the intersection with Elm Street; then northerly along the western side of the centerline of Elm Street to the intersection of Frost Street; then westerly along the southern side of the centerline of Frost Street to Williams Street; then along the southern side of the centerline of Williams Street to Brannan Street; then southerly along the centerline of Brannan Street to the intersection of West Street; then westerly along the southern side of the centerline of West Street to the intersection of Strand Avenue; then southerly along the eastern side of the centerline of West Street to the intersection of Williams Street; then westerly along the southern side of the centerline of Williams Street past Whetstone Village Drive to where the Whetstone Brook crosses; then westerly along the southern side of the centerline of the Whetstone Brook past Interstate 91 to the intersection of Guilford Street; then southerly along the eastern side of the centerline of Guilford Street to the intersection of Maple Street; then easterly along the northern side of the centerline of Maple street to the westerly boundary of tax parcel 00110367.000; then southerly along the eastern side of the western boundary of tax parcels 00110367.000 and 00110368.000; then westerly along the south side of the southern boundary of tax parcel 00110369.000 to tax parcel 00110378.000; then north easterly along the western side of the eastern boundary of tax parcel 00110378.000 following the parcel boundary to Guilford Street; then southerly along the eastern side of the centerline of Guilford Street to the boundary of the town of Guilford; then easterly along the town line of Guilford to the intersection with the Connecticut River; then northerly along the Connecticut River to the point of beginning.

*Tax parcel numbers are as of April 1, 2020

WINDHAM 4-3

That portion of the Town of Brattleboro not located in WINDHAM 4-1 or WINDHAM 4-2.

D U M M E R S T O N

M A R L B O R O

M A R L B O R O

H A L I F A X

G U I L F O R D

V E R N O N

Proposed Legislative Districts Town Proposal

Town of Brattleboro, Vt.

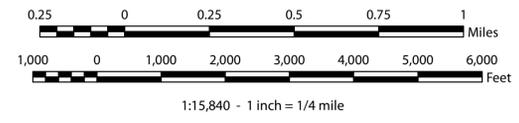
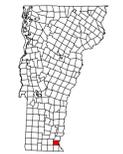
- District 1
- District 2
- District 3

-  US & State highway, Class 1 town highway
-  Interstate Highway
-  Class 2 or 3 town highway - paved
-  Class 2 or 3 town highway - unpaved
-  Class 4 town highway
-  Private road/drive
-  Railroad
-  Stream
-  River or pond



C H E S T E R F I E L D . N . H .

H I N S D A L E . N . H .



BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY FEEDBACK FORM

For the Submission of Feedback on the: VERMONT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - TENTATIVE RE-APPORTIONMENT PROPOSAL by the LEGISLATIVE APPORTIONMENT BOARD

The following is a report of the decisions and discussions of the Board of Civil Authority of the town/city, concerning the initial House district reapportionment plan proposed by the Legislative Apportionment Board, as required by 17 V.S.A.

§1905: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/17/034A/01905>

It is due on or before November 15, 2021 through this online portal.

This form is for reporting from the BCA through its authorized representative only. There should be only one report from any one BCA. This is not a portal for public comment. This link is not for public distribution. The public should be encouraged to comment to the BCA directly or can reach out to the LAB through its website: <https://sos.vermont.gov/apportionment-board/contact-the-board/>

* Required

1. Town/City: *

Brookline, VT

2. Name of Submitter: *

Stanley E Noga, Jr.

3. Role of Person Submitting This Form (Town Clerk, BCA Chair, etc.): *

Select person Authorized by BCA to submit response

4. Contact Phone: *

802-365-7667

5. Contact Email: *

stannogajr@gmail.com

6. Date(s) the Board of Civil Authority met on the reapportionment plan: *

11/10/2021

7. District(s) reviewed that the BCA recommends changing:

Please use the district names used in the proposed map.

WDM-6, WDM- 2, WDM-7, WDM-8. Brookline is in WDM-6. Others involve modification.

8. District(s) reviewed that the BCA recommends keeping as proposed:

Please use the district names used in the proposed map.

None kept as LAB proposes

9. Description of District(s) recommended to be changed: *

Please provide a clear description of the recommended district. For an example of the way this has been done in the past, please refer to 17 V.S.A. §1893:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/17/034/01893>

Use as much detail as possible. If the BCA's proposed district(s) have more than one member, please include that detail. You may also copy the map provided to you and re-draw the line, if desired, but you must also include the description. If necessary, email any attachments to sos.bcafeedback@vermont.gov and clearly include your town and district in the title and body of the email.

It is suggested that the entire towns of Brookline, Athens, Newfane, Townshend and Grafton be placed together in one district due to educational, religious, social, economic and access reasons. See attached document and maps sent to sos.bcafeedback@vermont.gov.

10. Rationale and comments: *

Please give in detail your rationale for the change(s) that the BCA made as well as rationale for leaving the district(s) as drawn by the Legislative Apportionment Board.

See attached maps and reasons as emailed to sos.bcafeedback@vermont.gov. Brookline has nothing in common with Westminster and Rockingham. We have much in common with Newfane, Townshend, Athens and Grafton. The resulting ratio is less than 0.05%.

Submit

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BCA Suggested Reapportionment

Town of Brookline, VT

It is asked that the proposed Windham District 6 be abandoned and that the towns of Newfane, Townshend, Athens, Brookline and Grafton be joined for a House Voting District. The WDM - # can be determined by the "LAB".

Westminster, southern portion of Rockingham and Brookline have very little in common:

- 1) There is no direct road access from Brookline to Westminster or the southern portion of Rockingham.
- 2) The steep Putney Mountain Range geographically separates the two towns.
- 3) Westminster has its own school system.
- 4) Brookline has no historical association with Westminster while it was once part of the Town of Newfane.
- 5) Route 30, a state highway, passes through Newfane and Townshend while Brookline and Athens are a short drive off Route 30. Westminster is accessed by state highway Route 5 along the very eastern portion of the state.
- 6) Westminster has no connections with Brookline of either a social, religious or services nature.

Reasons for connecting Brookline, Athens, Newfane, Townshend and Grafton are:

- 1) The local hospital, Grace Cottage Hospital is located in Townshend and both serves and employs people of the four towns.
- 2) There is a large grocery store on Route 30 just north of the Newfane – Townshend town line which serves this area. There is a building supply store in Newfane.
- 3) Emergency services provided by Rescue, Inc. encompass these towns and not Westminster.
- 4) After school activities entail local families of these towns to include sports, theatre, graduation, etc.
- 5) Many of the families in the proposed district are inter-related.
- 6) Social events such as October Fest, Hospital Fair, Farmers' Market etc. take place in these several towns.
- 7) Restaurants along Route 30 serve this area.
- 8) Places of religious worship are located in Newfane, Grafton and Townshend.
- 9) Brookline residents participate in the volunteer fire department in Newfane and said department serves both towns. Townshend has its own volunteer fire department.
- 10) Brookline education is accessed in Newfane for elementary school students and Townshend for upper grades. There is a private school with facilities in both Newfane and Townshend for students who desire an alternative means of education.
- 11) Brookline is home of a Day Care business which serves this area.

Respectfully Submitted, Brookline BCA

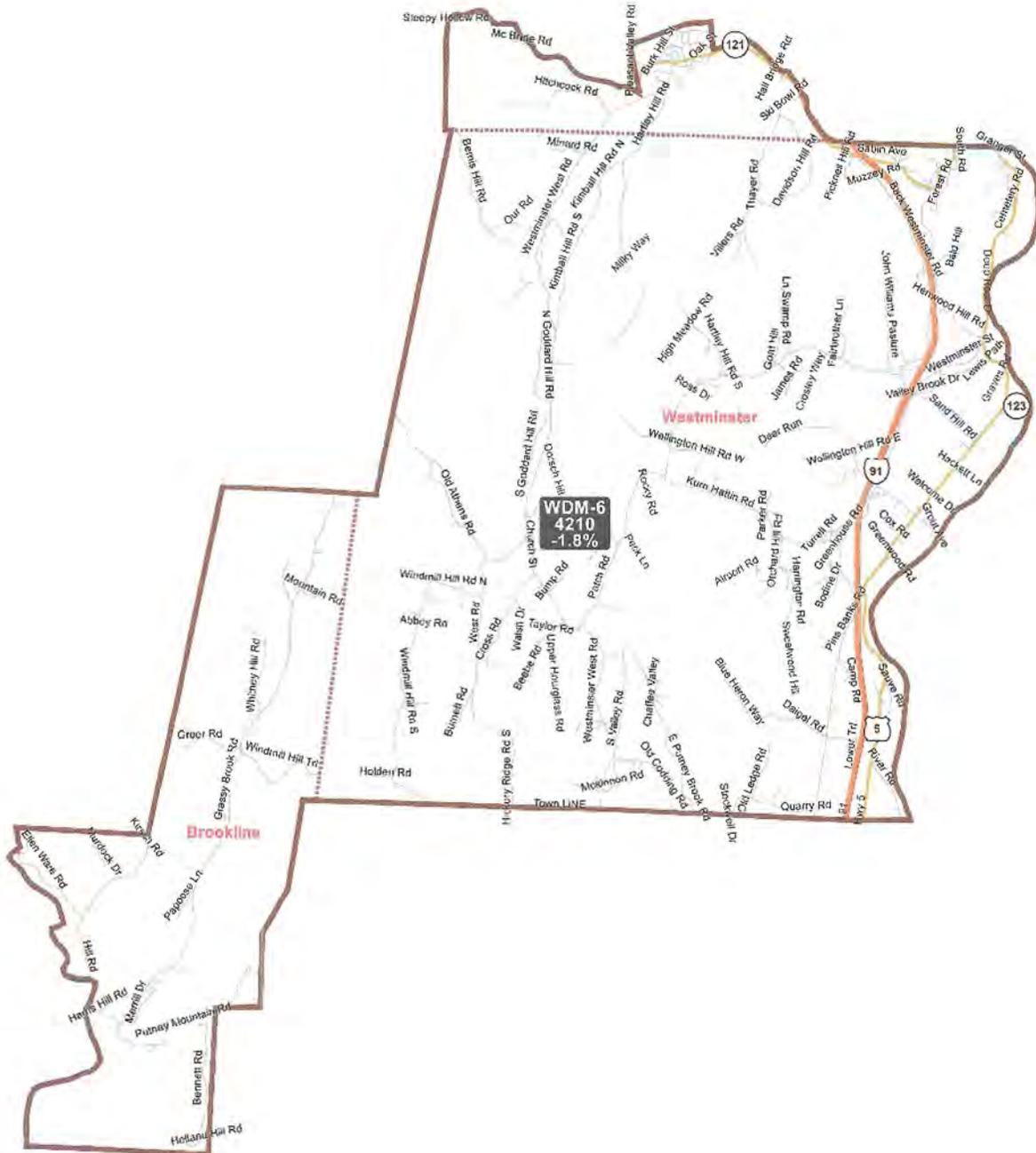


State of Vermont

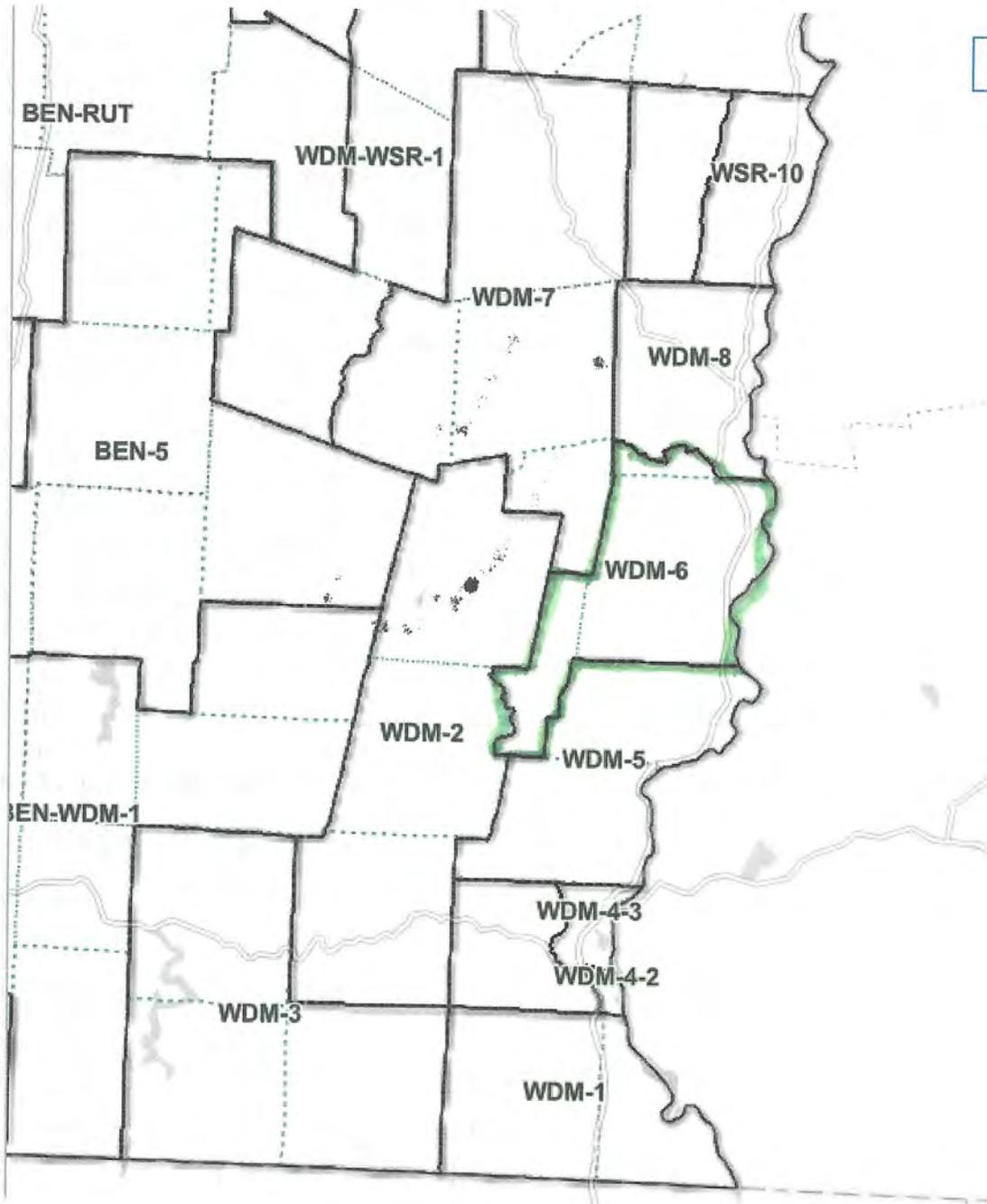
2021 Legislative Reapportionment

Field	Value
District	WDM-6
Population	4210
Deviation	-.77
% Deviation	-1.8%

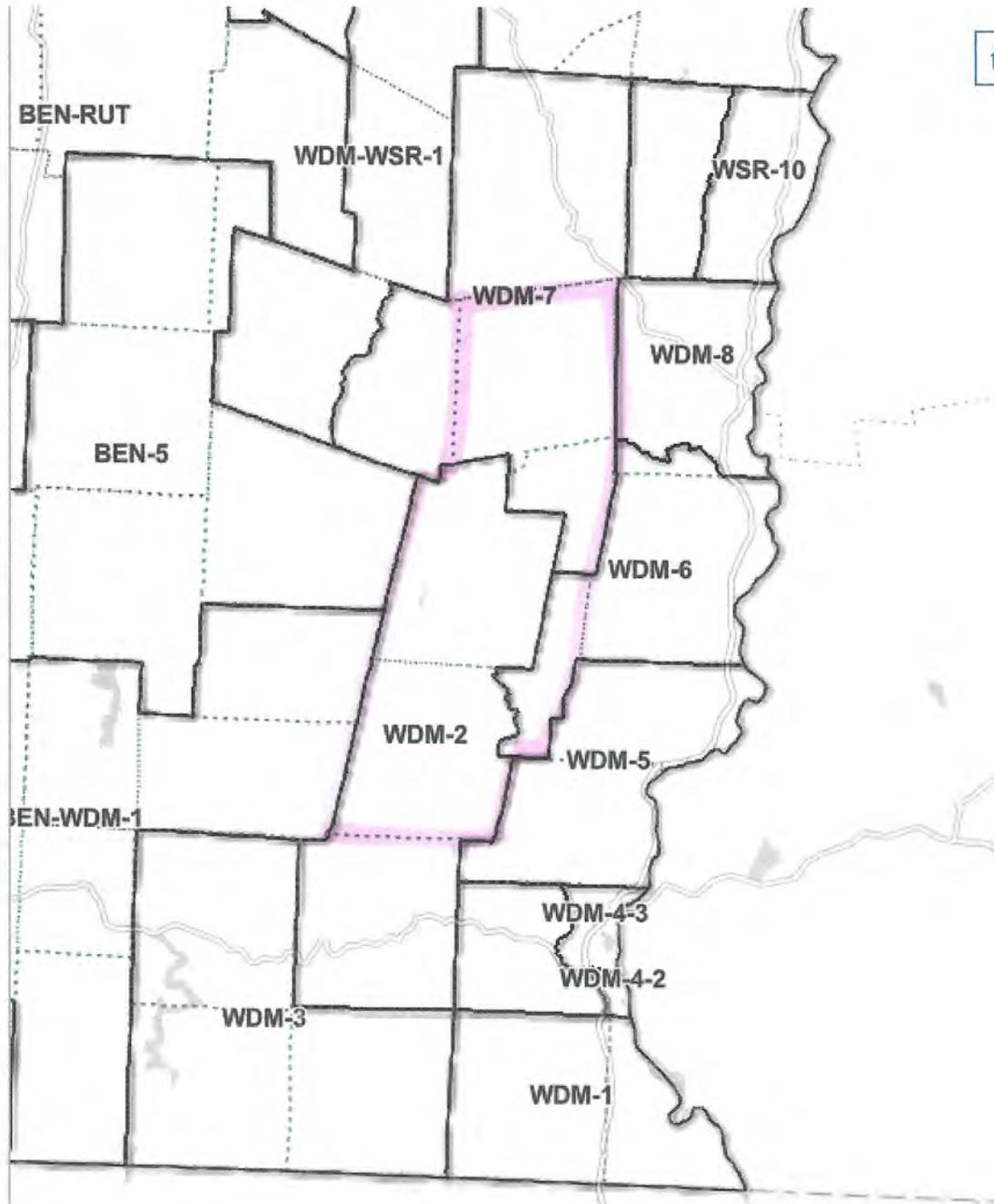
District: WDM-6



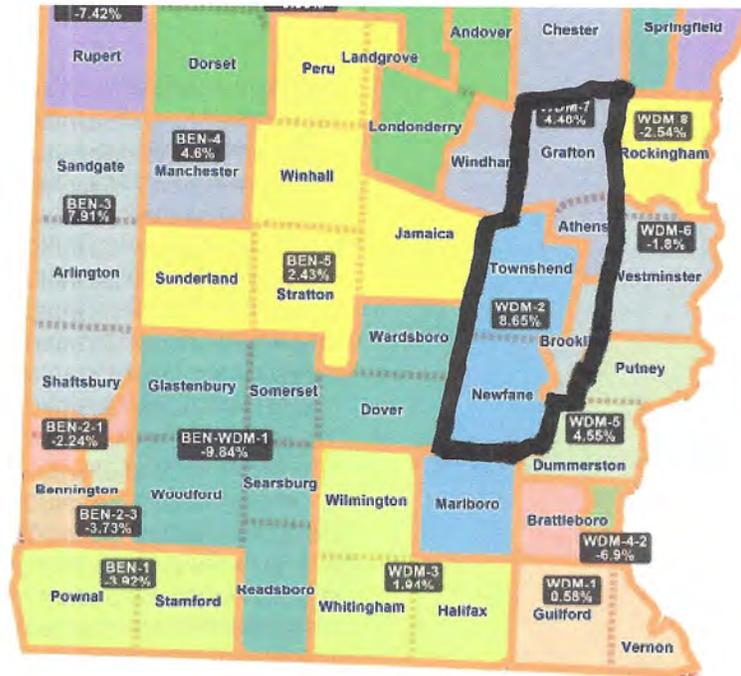
LAB Proposed Re-Apportnment



Brookline BCA Suggestion for Re-Appportionment



Another View Brookline BCA suggestion



**BURLINGTON BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY
CONTOIS AUDITORIUM, 2ND FLOOR, CITY HALL
BURLINGTON, VERMONT
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 8, 2021
DRAFT**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Paul
Max Tracy
Chip Mason
Joan Shannon
Ali Dieng
Jack Hanson
Perri Freeman
Jane Stromberg
Sarah E Carpenter
Zoraya Hightower
Mark Barlow
Joe Magee
Miro Weinberger

OTHERS PRESENT: Dan Richardson
Katherine Schad

1. CALL TO ORDER and AGENDA

Mayor Weinberger called the meeting to order at 8:19 PM.

1.01 Motion to amend/adopt agenda

MOTION by Councilor Shannon, SECOND by Councilor Mason, to amend/adopt the agenda as follows:

- **add to the consent agenda item 2.03 Communication: Robert Bristow Johnson, re: 2022 Vermont House Redistricting within Burlington - Addendum with the action to "waive the reading, accept the communication and place it on file";**

- **add to the agenda item 3.02 Communication: Katherine Schad, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Burlington, re: Adopting the House Redistricting Tentative Proposal with the action to "The Board of Civil Authority directs Chief Administrative Officer Katherine Schad to submit electronically and via electronic mail the above memorandum to the Vermont Legislative Apportionment Board, represented by Chair Thomas A. Little."**

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.01 motion to adopt the consent agenda and take the actions as indicated

2.02 Communication: Robert Bristow-Johnson, re: 2022 Vermont House Redistricting within Burlington October 22, 2021 (rv. November 3, 2021) – waive the reading, accept the communication, and place it on file.

2.03 Communication: Robert Bristow Johnson, re: 2022 Vermont House Redistricting within Burlington – Addendum – waive the reading, accept the communication, and place it on file.

MOTION by Councilor Shannon, SECOND by Councilor Mason, to adopt the consent agenda and take the actions as indicated for items 2.01-2.03

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

3. DELIBERATIVE AGENDA

3.01 Communication: Eric Covey, Chief of Staff, Vermont Secretary of State's Office, re: Resending - For Official BCA Feedback: Proposed House District Map by Legislative Apportionment Board

Councilor Shannon said that she is supportive of the proposals brought forth by Robert Bristow-Johnson and expressed hope that the legislature will weigh that when making its final determination.

Councilor Hanson expressed support for moving to single-member districts. He said that he is also supportive of simpler single-member districts at the House level as well. He said that it would increase accountability between constituents and their representatives, as well as simplicity in understanding one's representatives and how to support them. He additionally said that multi-member districts create difficulties if a constituent supports one of the representatives but not the other, in terms of mounting a campaign.

Councilor Barlow expressed support for remaining with two-seat legislative districts in five districts. He noted that his district has two representatives and that it works well. He said that what is currently in place is working well.

Councilor Carpenter said that in her experience, two-member district scenarios and one-member district scenarios both work well, depending on the situation. She suggested having two- or one-person districts, depending on geography.

Councilor Hightower expressed support for two-representative maps at the State level.

MOTION by Councilor Shannon, SECOND by Councilor Carpenter, to submit comments, recommendations and materials to the LAB through the online form (#4) by November 15, 2021.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

3.02 Communication: Katherine Schad, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Burlington, re: Adopting the House Redistricting Tentative Proposal

MOTION by Councilor Shannon, SECOND by Councilor Mason, to direct Chief Administrative Officer Katherine Schad to submit electronically and via electronic mail the above memorandum with the endorsement of this board, to the Vermont Legislative Apportionment Board, represented by Chair Thomas A. Little.

MOTION TO AMEND by Councilor Hanson, SECOND by City Council President Tracy, to strike "with the endorsement of this board"

VOTING ON AMENDMENT (by roll call): Councilor Barlow – nay, Councilor Carpenter – nay, Councilor Dieng – aye, Councilor Freeman – aye, Councilor Hanson – aye, Councilor Hightower – aye, Councilor Mason – nay, Councilor Paul – nay, Councilor Magee – aye, Councilor Shannon – nay, Councilor Stromberg – aye, City Council President Tracy – aye, Mayor Weinberger – nay (7 ayes, 6 nays); motion carries.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 8:43 PM.



DOVER TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
102 Route 100, P.O. Box 527
West Dover, VT 05356-0527

Andrew R. McLean
Town Clerk
Phone (802)464-5100 x2
Email townclerk@doververmont.com

November 4, 2021

Legislative Apportionment Board

Re: Dover, Ben-Wdm-1

Hi folks,

The Town of Dover's Board of Civil Authority met on November 3, 2021 to consider your proposed reapportionment map. First, the amount of work involved in the reapportionment process is mindboggling. Thank you for your dedication and for getting us the map well before your deadline.

We would respectfully request a few changes:

(Please, see attached/emailed map.)

BEN-WDM-1

Remove Glastenbury and Woodford. Add Stamford.

- Our district is working well. Our people have similar concerns. We are rural, mountain towns with internet and cell coverage concerns, per pupil weighting concerns, low paying service industry job concerns, and affordable housing concerns that are not shared by our neighbors in more populated towns. At least the solutions to these problems tend to be different for us, rural folks.
- BEN-WDM-1, historically, has seen substantial changes every ten years with reapportionment and we do not believe that, in this cycle, it should change again. Our district is working and our population is relatively stable, and so we believe reapportionment would be an unnecessary hardship.
- Our current configuration is covered by the same local newspaper, a more important factor than folks from more populated areas might appreciate.
- Our district is currently covered by two school supervisory districts. Your proposal would mean that there would be three different supervisory districts.
- The district you have proposed for us deviates below the recommended number of people per district more than almost any other proposed district. Dover's population gain was perhaps more due to the covid bump than any other town. It would make sense, since our district's population is not a problem that you make our district closer to the target population thinking of continuity for us in the future.



DOVER TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
102 Route 100, P.O. Box 527
West Dover, VT 05356-0527

BEN-1

Remove Stamford. Add Woodford. Add a portion of both BEN-2-2 and BEN-2-3 along Bennington's Southern border totaling 250 people.

- This district is losing population. Our district should not be reworked to fix this problem when a solution more in line with your statutory goals exists. Our proposed change would result in the same number of people represented in BEN-1 as you are currently proposing for our district.
- Given the mountain ridge between Stamford and Pownal and the Route 8/Route 100 link between Stamford and the rest of our district, Stamford should remain with Readsboro in BEN-WDM-1.

BEN-2-2

Remove a strip along the Southern border of 125 people to add to BEN-1.

- This district would still have over 4,000 people. Population centers are used to intra-town districts. This line could easily follow roads excluding the more urban part of Bennington.

BEN-2-3

Remove a strip along the Southern border of 125 people to add to BEN-1.

- This district would still have over 4,000 people. Population centers are used to intra-town districts. This line could easily follow roads excluding the more urban part of Bennington.

BEN-2-1

Add Glastenbury

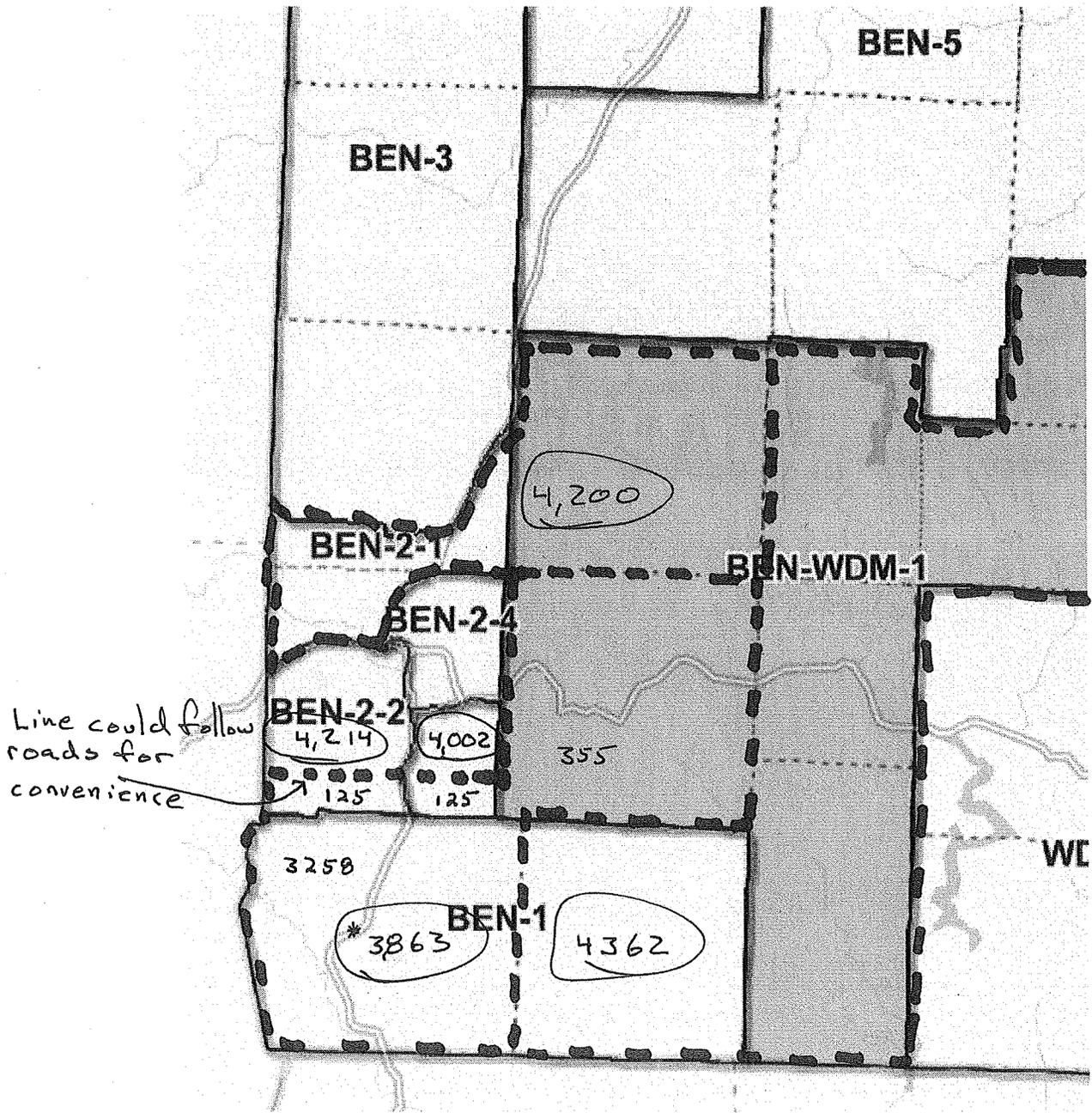
- The population in Glastenbury is completely cut off from the rest of your proposed BEN-WDM-1 district. If you look at a nighttime satellite photo of Southern Vermont, that big, inky black void in the middle lies between these folks and the rest of the district. Interestingly, your inclusion of Glastenbury in our district makes perfect sense if you want to increase the statutory "compactness" of our district. The reality on the ground in a mountain state gives the lie to this as a goal.

Again, thank you for all of your work in this thankless task! We can relate and are appreciative.

Sincerely,

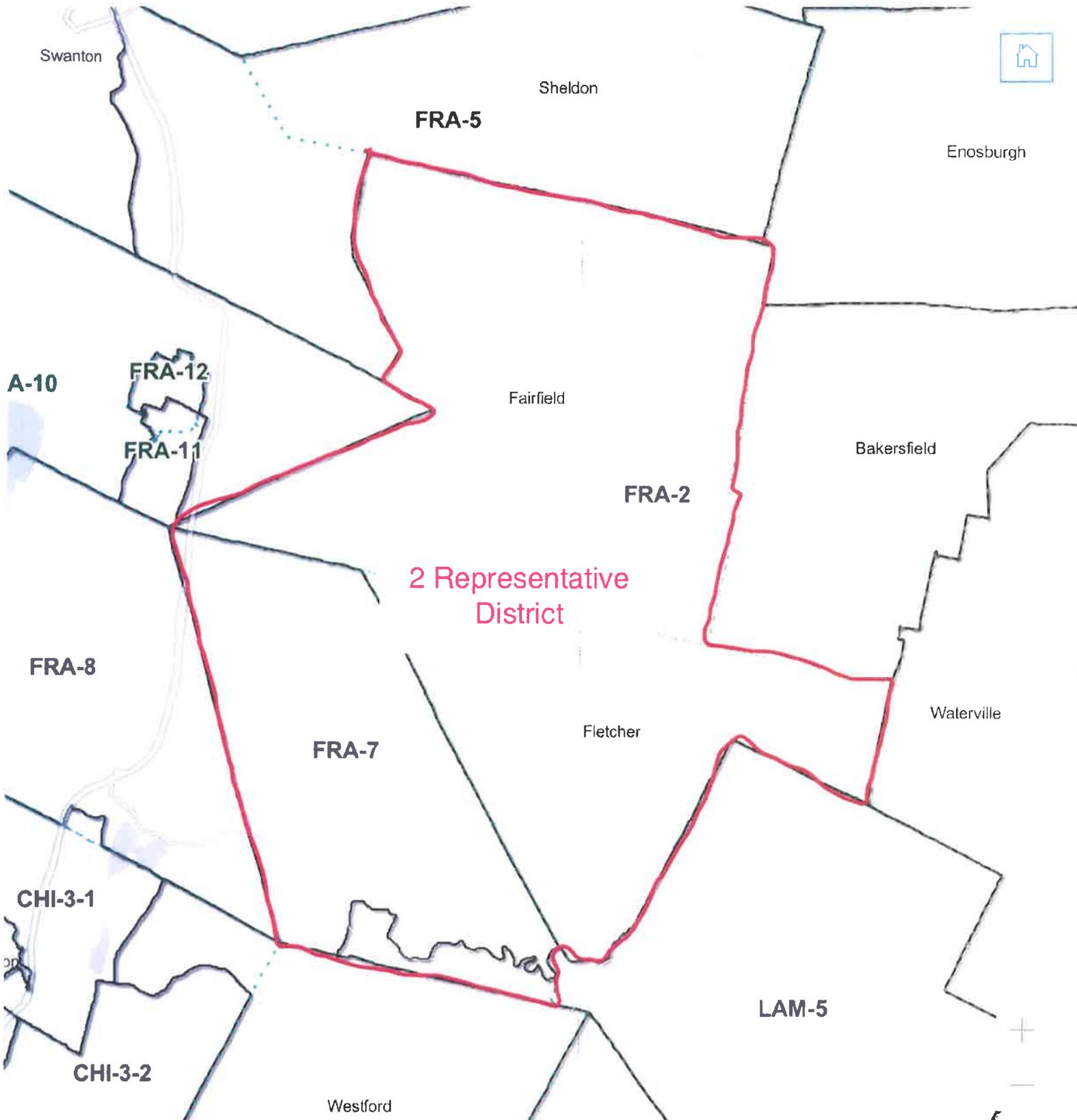
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andy McLean".

Andy McLean
Dover Town Clerk



* same as current proposed wdh-Ben

2022 DISTRICTS - Tentative Apportionment Board proposal.



2 Representative District

Petition to Legislative Apportionment Board 2021 from Fayston

The Town of Fayston, with support from the other four towns in the current WA-7 double legislative district, respectfully requests the district be maintained in its current state. The proposed plan to divide the Town of Fayston along Route 17 to create two single size districts (WAS-11 and WAS-8) was overwhelmingly rejected by an on-line poll and two open meetings of the Board of Civil Authority. We wish to protect Fayston's integrity as a town, and as an integral part of the Mad River Valley's larger community. The five-town double district has worked well for the Mad River Valley, and the population math (8351) is well within target.

Fayston is the most mountainous town in Vermont, bordered on the west by the Long Trail running on the ridge of the Green Mountains. It is famous for two of the Mad River Valley's alpine ski areas, Sugarbush's Mount Ellen, and Mad River Glen. In addition to our residents, we have second home owners, out of state students (GMVS) and their families, and visitors year round. We have big chunks of the Green Mountain National Forest, Camel's Hump State Forest, and two Town forests (Chase Brook and Boyce Hill).

Fayston has no downtown commercial district, but has many businesses including recreation, lodging, agriculture, services, manufacturing, education, and construction (See **Appendix A for a sample of these businesses**). Fayston has a modern Town Hall, and the Fayston Elementary School was distinguished as one of the top 10 in New England with recent Science NECAP scores. The school supports a record-setting 25 years of the Four Winds parent-taught nature curriculum, and provides a higher percentage of family-led PE ski afternoons than any other Valley schools. We are rich in living with the land - its mountains and streams and flora and fauna and we are an essential part of the Mad River Watershed. We are a diverse community, but we have a sense of living in a special and unique Town. We have three cemeteries and a historical society. We are cabled with optical fiber. We welcome second home-owners and visitors from around the world, as do our neighbors in Duxbury, Moretown, Waitsfield, and Warren, with whom we share our beautiful Mad River Valley. We have 34 miles of dirt roads and six miles of paved town roads, running everything from electric vehicles to log trucks. We honor our hard-working road crew. **Fayston is served by State Route 17, but should not be divided by it.**

The Mad River Valley, with Fayston sandwiched between Waitsfield/Warren and Moretown/Duxbury, shares history, recreation, religion, firefighting, medical care, libraries, and schools. The Mad River Valley economies have shifted away from old agriculture and forestry

and have embraced new agriculture, tourism, education, and high-tech ventures. **Appendix B** lists organizations from Town Boards and partnerships to churches and day-care which bind the Mad River Valley together, from the top of the Mad River in Warren, and the many streams that feed it from Fayston, Waitsfield, Duxbury, and Moretown, until it flows into the Winooski River. While many of these collaborations began with Fayston, Warren, and Waitsfield (notably the 1965 Mad River Valley Planning District), we have seen the “Mad River Valley” increasingly include Duxbury and Moretown, which complete the Mad River’s watershed.

The last ten years as a double legislative district have been successful. Our current Representatives Maxine Grad and Kari Dolan live in Moretown and Waitsfield, and previous representatives were from Fayston and Warren. We have a coalition of seven church groups, the Mad River Valley Interfaith Council, which operates a community pantry. We have a Senior Center and a robust Meals-on-Wheels program. The successful Neck of the Woods child care center has moved from Moretown to Waitsfield, providing more and wider services than ever, and the Mad River Valley Housing Coalition completed a low-income housing project in Moretown last year.

While all five towns were often doubling their population every decade, growth has slowed down more recently. Skiing is a prince, but not the king of the Mad River Valley. The five towns range from 17 to 24% each of the present double district (**Appendix C**), totaling 8351 people. 88 of the 150 seats in the Vermont House are representing double districts. The 8351 people in the current Mad River Valley five-town district total 97.4 percent of the calculated goal per double district, or -2.6% variation. Our five towns are a good fit by the numbers. And we share many community functions - ranging from our unified school district (which includes Waterbury), cooperation with fire and ambulance departments, affordable housing, recreation (Moretown just approved a budget to help purchase Valley-wide playing fields in Waitsfield), churches, shopping, service businesses, and conservation issues. The last ten years have demonstrated successful representation on many issues.

We have discussed the rationale for single size districts representing a target in 2022 of 4287 people. We understand it. We observe though that the majority of the House now comes from double districts, with great pains to keep towns intact for both their sense of identity and community and ease of State administration of Town affairs like elections and reporting. In the case of our Town of Fayston, and in the case of the wider community of the five towns in the Mad River Valley, we feel our cohesiveness, identities and function, and the synergy of having two reps who cooperate, greatly outweigh the benefits of single district size.

We offer support from the other four towns, as best as we have been able to glean it in the short time allowed this year to discuss reapportionment. **Appendix D**

In 2011, the LAB proposed the same two single districts that are initially proposed this year, dividing Fayston Town down the middle of a State Highway. The petition for a double District was supported by all five towns and was approved without controversy. **Appendix E** contains the various proceedings in that request. The testimony from all five towns' officials is on pages 1-4, with Tom Little present. Page 7 through 9 are the formal request forms submitted.

In summary, we have had WA-7 as a double district since 2012. That solution has worked admirably for the Town of Fayston and for the entire Mad River Valley. It has met the Statute's intent to respect communities. We think - if it ain't broke, don't fix it! Please keep the Town of Fayston intact and aligned with the four other towns in the Mad River Valley.

Appendix A- Businesses in Fayston

Appendix B- Mad River Valley Multi-Town Organizations

Appendix C- Current Five-Town populations

Appendix D- Support from Duxbury, Moretown, Waitsfield, and Warren

Appendix E- Full copy of 2011 request (this is a PDF, not Word file)

Appendix A - Fayston Businesses draft Nov 2021

Agriculture

Knoll Farm

Ellen's Overlook Farm

Ploughgate Creamery

Hillside Farm

Vasseur Sugar House

Vermont Icelandic Horse Farm

Eastman Long Maple Sugaring

Wheeler Maple Sugaring

Food and Lodging

Dino Bones BBQ

Wilder Inn on the Mountain

Inn at the Mad River Barn

Tucker Hill Lodge

Mountain View Inn

Mad River Lodge

White Horse Inn

Swanson Inn

Services

Mad River Veterinary Service

Balanced Life Chiropractic

Kathleen C Kopele ACSW Certified Psychoanalyst

Hall and Holden Accountants

Lauren S. Kolitch Esq

Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports

Mountain Pools And Spas

The Recovery Room

Griffin and Griffin, Excavating

Andy DiMario Excavating

Rick Scarzello Excavating Contractor

Shelterwood Construction

Timberpeg Post and Beam

Mad River Building and Design

Belknap's Plumbing and Heating

Viens Plumbing and Heating
Viens Excavation
Shepard's Brook Auto and Restoration
Key Krafter

Retail Goods:

Eric Bauer - Bauernhofholzwerke Woodworking
Early Vermont Medicines
KS Coffee
Mountain Grooming Equipment
Amann Leather

Education

Fayston Elementary School (HUUSD)
Green Mountain Valley School
True North Wilderness Program

Appendix B Mad River Valley Multi-town Organizations

1. **Sugarbush Ski Resort's Mount Ellen and Mad River Glen ski areas** are in Fayston, along with associated lodging, ski shops, ski clubs, eateries, fitness and sport centers, and associated four season activities. Sugarbush Ski Resort's Lincoln Peak ski area, Ole's Cross Country Center, and Blueberry Lake Cross Country ski area are in Warren.
2. Fayston has been a member of the **Mad River Planning District** since its founding in 1965, and has a Select Board member and a Planning Commissioner on the MRVPD Board. This tri-Town consortium has guided development of the Fayston-Waitsfield-Warren core of the Mad River Valley.
3. **Mad River Valley Housing Coalition** is dedicated to affordable housing initiatives and solutions throughout the Valley. Its "accessory dwelling unit program" has been particularly innovative and successful. The Coalition is part of the MRV Planning District and had three of seven board members from Fayston.
4. **Mad River Resource Management Alliance** - The Mad River Resource Management Alliance (MRRMA) serves the Vermont communities of **Fayston, Moretown, Waitsfield, Warren, and Waterbury** and provides assistance in the management of a variety of waste management systems.
5. Fayston and Waitsfield share the **Waitsfield-Fayston Fire Department**.
6. The Town of Fayston makes significant contributions annually to the operation of the **Joslin Memorial Library** in Waitsfield.
7. Fayston shares with the rest of the Valley the **Mad River Valley Ambulance**.
8. Fayston, Duxbury, Moretown, Waitsfield, and Warren, with Waterbury share the schools of the **Harwood Union Unified School District**. **Fayston Elementary School** is an outstanding member of the Towns' elementary schools.
9. The **Mad River Valley Recreation District** maintains playing fields and other recreation opportunities for people of all ages. Notably Moretown contributed recently to the purchase of Mad River Park in Waitsfield and its recreational and parking improvements.
10. Seven of the churches in the Mad River Valley are allied in the **Mad River Valley Interfaith Council**. Fayston residents are active in ALL seven of these churches.
11. The **Waitsfield Fayston Telephone Company** was incorporated in 1904. It is now known as Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom (WCVT), and serves all five MRV towns. Fayston is nearly completely installed with optical fiber for DSL internet, cable TV, and phone service.
12. **Mad River Valley TV (MRVTV)** is an independent public access channel with two full channels, and provides coverage of town board and commission meetings in the Mad River Valley as well as other Valley-wide programs.

13. **WMRW 94.5FM** is a micro radio station based in Warren, serving the whole Mad River Valley.
WDEV Radio is based in Waterbury, and serves Central Vermont. WDEV-FM transmits at 96.1 from Lincoln Peak in Warren.
14. The **Valley Reporter**, our weekly newspaper since 1971, and now also with a twice-weekly on-line newsletter, lists the five towns prominently on its masthead.
15. There are **individual properties that cross the boundary** of Fayston and Duxbury, and ones that overlap Fayston and Waitsfield. Sugarbush with two major ski areas is jointly located in Fayston and Warren.
16. **Duxbury and Fayston no longer have post offices.** Duxbury mail is handled through the Waterbury Post Office. And with sometimes great confusion, North Fayston's mail is handled by Moretown, while South Fayston's mail is handled by the Waitsfield Post Office. Oddly, linking Covid vaccinations to mailing addresses makes Fayston appear largely unvaccinated.
17. The **Mad River Valley Chamber of Commerce** lists about 200 member enterprises of astounding diversity. Mailing addresses make the actual home and service locations difficult to sort by town.
18. **Mad River Valley Trails** is a consortium of path and trail organizations fostered by the MRV Chamber of Commerce, partially aimed at four-season visitors to the MRV.
19. The **Mad River Path Association** is "a community-supported organization whose mission is to build, maintain, and conserve a system of continuous public pathways and trails connecting Warren, Waitsfield, Fayston, and Moretown. This network of paths and trails fosters a healthy community by connecting the people, businesses, and special places of the Mad River Valley, Vermont."
20. **Special interest groups** that range in interests and members from all over the Mad River Valley include the **Mad River Mountain Riders, Bocce League, Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST), Catamount Trail, Green Mountain Club,** and others.
21. The **Mad River Chorale (MRC)** with 60 active singers from all over Central Vermont, but mainly the five towns of the Mad River Valley, is now 24 years old. The MRC sings concerts mostly in Warren, Waitsfield, Duxbury, Waterbury, but also elsewhere in Vermont with joint concerts (Barre, South Burlington, Randolph, and Colchester).
22. Service organizations that serve the entire five town Valley include **Rotary, Freemasons, Oddfellows, Couples Club, Community Fund, Housing Coalition, Community Pantry, Valley Players, Cubs Scouts and Scouting BSA.**

Appendix C- Current Five Towns populations 2020

Town	US Census 2020	
Duxbury	1413	17%
Fayston	1364	16%
Moretown	1753	21%
Waitsfield	1844	22%
Warren	1977	24%
Total	8351	100% 2.6% variance from ideal

Vermont 2020 643,077 divide by 150 seats in Legislature

Each single district 4287 people

or a double district **8574** people

Appendix D Requests/Support

At the Fayston BCA meeting on Nov 4th, our current Representatives Maxine Grad (Moretown) and Kari Dolan (Waitsfield) said the synergy of two Representatives with different “portfolios” of expertise and interests has worked well from their perspective. Both agreed that it was important to keep the Town of Fayston intact and part of the Mad River Valley’s five-town district.

At the Fayston BCA meeting on Nov 9th, Reta Goss, Town Clerk of Warren, voiced that Town’s support for Fayston’s request for maintaining our current district with two representatives.

LAB Chair Tom Little’s memo to all the Vermont Towns’ Clerks and BCAs asks for direct responses from them. Given the short time frame for response, the Fayston BCA reached out independently for support from the other BCAs as well as other Town entities. As in 2011, the Fayston BCA expects strong support from the other four towns based on conversations, editorials expression in the local paper, and a lack of complaints about the current district.

Lisa Loomis, Editor of the Valley Reporter, offered a strongly supportive editorial in last week’s edition.

Board of Civil Authority

Minutes 11/9/21

Board (Board) Present: Lisa Koitzsch (Lisa), Chuck Martel (Chuck), Danielle Howes (Danielle), Rick Rayfield (Rick), Jared Cadwell (Jared), and Patti Lewis (Patti)

Guest Present: Tony Italiano (Tony), Karen Sauther (Karen), Marian Petrides (Marian), Wayne Foster (Wayne), Lorraine Foster (Lorraine), Kristen Dweck (Kristen), Shane Mullen (Shane), and Josh Bewlay (Josh).

4:30 p.m. – Rick called the meeting to order.

The Board heard from each of the guests present and all were of the opinion that Fayston should not be split into two districts. See MRVTV (<https://mrvtv.com/>) recording for full comments.

Next steps were decided as follows:

BCA to gather letters of support from the other four towns of Warren, Waitsfield, Duxbury, and Moretown in our current district.

Rick will draft the Town's response to the LAB proposal, Lisa will help if needed.

Rick will also create a document outlining shared Valley Community Organizations, Businesses, Interest, and Infrastructure.

Danielle will draft a letter to send to the other Town Clerks and Selectboard Chairs asking for their support.

When creating the response, the petition to the LAB of ten years ago will be included as similar evidence to this 2021 proposal.

Deadline to respond is 11/15/21. Therefore, the BCA will stay in touch over the next two days to craft the response and have it ready to submit on Monday morning the 15th.

It was also noted that any member of the public may respond directly to the LAB board at: <https://sos.vermont.gov/apportionment-board/contact-the-board/>.

5:11 p.m. Jared made a motion to adjourn. Lisa seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patti Lewis

Rick Rayfield, Chair

**Board of Civil Authority
Agenda
11/9/21
4:30 P.M.
Robert Vasseur Town Hall**

- 1. Approved Minutes of 11/4/21**
- 2. Review and Comment on Reapportionment Board Report**

Town of Fayston is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Board of Civil Authority

Time: Nov 9, 2021 04:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3388890421?pwd=SENIQkhXK3dpRktUVTVUM0R4UkpmZz09>

- 3. Other Business**

Board of Civil Authority

Minutes 11/4/21

Board (Board) Present: Lisa Koitzsch (Lisa), Chuck Martel (Chuck), Danielle Howes (Danielle), Rick Rayfield (Rick), Jared Cadwell (Jared), and Patti Lewis (Patti)

Guest Present: Maxine Grad (Maxine), Kari Dolan (Kari), Joan Rae (Joan), Paul Sipple (Paul), Wendy Bridgewater (Wendy), Reta Goss (Reta), Tony Italiano (Tony)

4:30 p.m. – Rick called the meeting to order.

The Board and Guests discussed the proposed reapportionment plan by the Legislative Apportionment Board (LAB) whereby the Town of Fayston would be split on either side of Route 17 for voting/election purposes. Thereby making part of Fayston residents (1/4) a one-member district with Waitsfield and Warren and the other part (3/4) a one-member district with Moretown and Duxbury.

After discussion about process, pro and cons of one member representation vs. two, geography, what constitutes the Mad River Valley, the feedback from the public via email to Rick at rayfieldvt@gmail.com and those concerns raised, the Board decided as follows:

Rick made a motion to petition the LAB stating that Fayston should remain with the current 5 Town configuration with two representatives while seeking support from the Valley Boards (such as the Planning District and Selectboards) keeping Fayston as an entire Town. Lisa seconded. Further discussion was had about presenting the LAB with a second option stating Fayston wants to remain whole and with Waitsfield and Warren if one-member districts are the goal of the LAB. Kari noted that stating this could cause a domino effect with population numbers and other Towns. No further discussion, all in favor, motion passed.

There was further discussion on the timing (short time frame) for getting support letters together, sending a second notice out via MailChimp regarding the next meeting on this subject planned for 11/9/21 at 4:30 p.m. at the Fayston Municipal Office, and the fact we must have a response in to the LAB by 11/15/21.

5:34 p.m. Jared made a motion to adjourn. Danielle seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patti Lewis

Rick Rayfield, Chair

**Board of Civil Authority
Agenda
11/4/21
4:30 P.M.
Robert Vasseur Town Hall**

1. Review and Comment on Reapportionment Board Report

Topic: Reapportionment Meeting

Time: Nov 4, 2021 04:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3388890421?pwd=SENIQkhXK3dpRktUVTVUM0R4UkpmZz09>

Meeting ID: 338 889 0421

Passcode: 492597

2. Other Business

Board of Civil Authority

Minutes 10/27/21

Board (Board) Present: Rick Rayfield, Chuck Martel, Danielle Howes, Jared Cadwell, and Patti Lewis.

10:00 a.m. – Rick called the meeting to order.

After discussion about process, pro and cons, and stakeholders, of the proposed Reapportionment Plan for 2021/2022 the Board decided on the following action items.

A link to the Reapportionment Board information (<https://sos.vermont.gov/apportionment-board/map-drafts/>) will be posted to the website. (Patti)

Notice to Fayston Residents will be distributed through the email system with this same link. (Patti)

Residents will be asked to email rayfieldvt@gmail.com with any comments or concerns by 11/8/21. (Patti)

Compilation of all responses will be created for distribution to the Board by 11/9/21. (Rick).

A letter will be drafted to go out to our current representatives, neighboring Towns, and Lisa at the Valley Reporter, with an invite to attend the next meeting. (Patti)

The next meetings will be:

11/4/21 at 4:30 p.m.

11/9/21 at 4:30 p.m.

10:47 a.m. Jared made a motion to adjourn. Chuck seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patti Lewis

Rick Rayfield, Chair

**Board of Civil Authority
Agenda
10/27/21
10:00 A.M.
Robert Vasseur Town Hall**

- 1. Review and Comment on Reapportionment Board Report**
- 2. Other Business**

Warren Board of Civil Authority

Tuesday November 9, 2021

Present were Chairman Margo Wade, Susan Bauchner, Camilla Behn, Luke Youmell, Andrew Cunningham, Reta Goss. Representative Maxine Grad joined the meeting via Zoom.

Meeting was called to order at 6PM by chairman Wade.

The Board discussed the new proposed representative districts and the calculations which lead to the new proposed configuration. Warren, Waitsfield and ¼ of Fayston would be a one-member district with population of 4,174, the apportionment boards ideal population being 4,287. The population of the current district (Fayston, Duxbury, Moretown, Warren and Waitsfield) would be 8,018 which is below the apportionment board's ideal population for a two member district of 8574.

The Fayston BCA is proposing the 5 towns remain a 2-member district which would keep Fayston undivided. Their second choice would be to have Fayston, Waitsfield and Warren become a one-member district.

Warren, Waitsfield and Fayston all belong to the Mad River Valley Planning District and the Mad River Valley Recreation District and therefore all have very similar needs and concerns. Fayston and Warren host ski areas while Waitsfield hosts the Mad River Valley's "down Town" business center.

Representative Grad added "that the districts should be created that preserve existing political boundary lines, recognize and maintain patterns of geography, social interaction, political ties and common interest and use compact, contiguous territory."

The board felt that keeping the five towns together as a 2-member district was ideal but would also support a 1-member district including Fayston, Waitsfield and Warren.

After discussion, the Warren Board of Civil Authority voted to join Fayston in support of their proposal that would keep Fayston as a whole and either keep the existing 2-member district intact or form a new district with the three Mad River Valley towns of Fayston, Waitsfield and Warren.

Motion to adjourn at 6:15PM made and seconded.

Minutes reviewed and approved on November 11, 2021.

Respectfully submitted

Reta Goss

Warren Town Clerk

Town of Moretown BCA Minutes

November 10, 2021 - 7:30 AM

79 School St, Moretown Vt

Via ZOOM Meeting ID 886 2072 3836

BCA Members Present: Tom Martin, John Hoogenboom, Ron Shems, Steve Magill, Bill Nowlan, Bridget Harty, Kate O'Neil, Maxine Grad, Kari Dolan, Cherilyn Brown, Don Wexler

Present for Minutes: Sasha Elwell-Badore

John nominated Steve as **chair of the BCA for 2021-2022**. Don seconded. All were in favor.

Cherilyn nominated Ron as **vice chair of the BCA for 2021-2022**. John seconded. All were in favor.

John made the motion to **designate polling location** as an outdoor drive-up, (entering the school driveway and exiting by the town office). Don seconded. All were in favor.

John made the motion for the **alternate** (outdoor) **location** being at the school. Bill seconded. All were in favor.

Approval for a **drop box at the town office**, specifically for ballots being accepted until the close of the polls (7:00 PM) the day of voting, Bill so moved. John seconded. All were in favor.

Approval for **early processing of ballots through the tabulator**, (as early as three (3) days prior), John so moved. Bridget seconded. All were in favor.

Approval for voters to **deposit their ballots into a secure ballot box without a certified enveloped**, John so moved. Ron seconded. All were in favor.

The following election locations were **designated**:

- **General** – school
- **Primary** (along with other local elections) – town office
- **Town Meeting 2022** – town office / drive-up

So moved by John. Ron seconded. All were in favor.

Discussion on the **Vermont Legislative District Apportionment** was had and the BCA was split 50/50 on the proposed change. The BCA agreed it should remain the two-member district as it is now or move to a one-member district. It was agreed that the BCA (Steve, chair) would report back to the Legislative Apportionment Board via the BCA Reporting Web Form.

Adjourn: Steve made the motion to adjourn at 8:47 AM. John seconded. All were in favor.

THE Valley REPORTER

Lisa Loomis, Editor in EDITORIALS November 11, 2021

Let's stay together

Following the 2020 Federal Census, the Vermont Legislative Apportionment Board (LAB) is looking at redistricting this year and is considering a plan to create all one-member districts within the state. The goal of the LAB is for each state representative to represent about 4,287 people to ensure fairness in representation.

Currently, the towns in the Mad River Valley – Warren, Waitsfield, Fayston, Moretown and Duxbury – are a single district and are represented by two state reps.

As part of that plan under consideration, the LAB is proposing to split The Valley towns into two one-representative districts. One district would include Warren and Waitsfield as well as all Fayston voters who live on or south of Route 17. The Faystonians who live north of Route 17 would be in a one-member district with Moretown and Duxbury.

Before even getting to the issue of how absurd it is to split a town, let's consider the fact that the Mad River Valley (and our current district) is a contiguous geographic area with a shared watershed and two shared mountain ranges.

We're closely connected by road and topography. We share a school district with Waterbury. We are a cohesive community made up of five towns and it should stay that way.

The math supports that as well. The 2020 census numbers show that the population of the five towns is 8,351. Having two state representatives means 4,175.5 per representative, which falls within the LAB's allowable deviation of 10% or less from 4,287.

Creating two districts from the five towns would create one district with 4,177 people from Duxbury, Moretown and part of Fayston, and a second with 4,174 people from Warren, Waitsfield and part of Fayston. Really, what's the point of that since the numbers are so close?

Now let's talk about Fayston. Splitting towns is absurd and artificial and the Fayston Board of Civil Authority will be petitioning the LAB (with support of the other Valley towns) to remain one town within a five-town district.

Splitting up The Valley towns is not okay, but splitting a town along a state highway is really not acceptable.

TOWN OF FAYSTON
866 NORTH FAYSTON ROAD
NORTH FAYSTON, VERMONT 05660
802-496-2454 x 21

August 11, 2011

Tom Little, Special Master
Vermont Legislative Apportionment Board
c/o Vermont Secretary of State's Office
128 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05663-1101

Dear Mr. Little:

Enclosed please find our response to the suggested district apportionment plan for Fayston as proposed by the Legislative Apportionment Board.

The Board of Civil Authority and the Citizens of Fayston wish to make a strong stand for keeping the Mad River Valley Towns (Fayston, Waitsfield and Warren) together for social, economic and geopolitical unity. (See Attachment A).

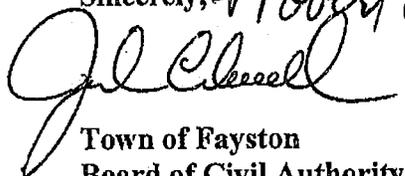
We are also aware that a 14.5% deviation in population for the combined Valley Towns (Waitsfield, Warren & Fayston) is well within the 16% deviation that has been acceptable in some cases.

We have heard loud and clear from the residents of Fayston that they do not want to be split and feel that we are sufficiently represented in a one representative district. The July 25, 2011, letter from the Mad River Valley Planning District demonstrates support for this from Waitsfield and Warren as well.

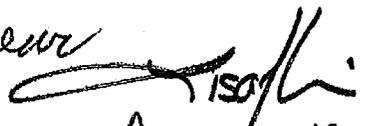
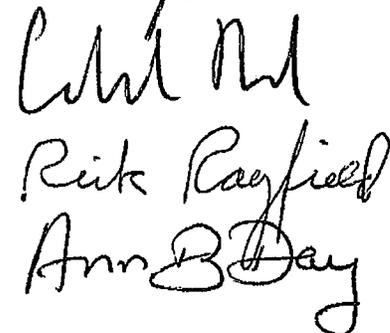
We wish Fayston to remain in a single legislative district even at the risk of a two representative district.

We appreciate your consideration as you move forward with the apportionment process.

Sincerely,


Town of Fayston
Board of Civil Authority

Robert Vasseur, Chair
Jared Cadwell
Ed Read



Tom Bisbee
Ann Day
Lisa Koitzsch
Rick Rayfield
Patti Lewis

Cc: Waterbury – c/o Carla Lawrence ✓
Duxbury – c/o Ken Scott ✓
Moretown – c/o Cherilyn Lamson
Waitsfield – c/o Jen Peterson ✓
Warren – c/o Reta Goss ✓

Minutes of BCA Meeting
Monday, July 11, 2011

Board Present: Robert Vasseur (Robert), Ed Read (Ed), Jared Cadwell (Jared), Tom Bisbee (Tom), Ann Day (Ann), Patti Lewis (Patti), Rick Rayfield (Rick)

Guests: Adam Greshin, Bill Doyle, Tom Little, Anthony Pollina, Judy Dimario, Jim Leyton, Carol Groom, Carla Lawrence, Reta Goss, Sandra Brodeur, Julius Goodman, Martha Bisbee, Carol Hosford, Jane Hobart, Gail Breslauer, David Frank, Jim Sanford, Mitch Kontoff, Lisa Loomis, Will Senning

Meeting called to order 8:10 a.m.

Tom Little spoke about the establishment of the Apportionment Board last summer by Governor Douglas. Three members from the Progressive, Republican and Democratic parties are the makeup of the Board. They produced (by July 1, 2011) the initial reports to the BCAs of any Town that would see a change in districting. By the end of July, the BCAs then file their comments with the Apportionment Board through the Secretary of States Office. The proposal and comments then go to the House committee for their review and preparation for the next Legislative Session. The plan would then go to the Senate and Governor for their vote. Once the process reaches the Senate, the BCA no longer has input but up until that time, there is opportunity to weigh in.

He noted that if BCAs come together with a common opinion that this would carry more weight than comments from a single BCA.

At issue is the 2010 census number that has the Valley Towns at a population of 4777 when the optimal number is 4172. This gives the Valley 605 people or 14.5% deviation from that optimal number. While there have been deviations 10% above or below (creating an overall deviation of 20%) the Valley is sitting fifth from the top on a list of highest deviation areas.

The Apportionment Board voted 4-3 in favor of developing a plan with single member districts. The law instructs the Apportionment Board to look at substantial equality of representation and base their vote on a one-member district theory.

He noted that if there is any change to the current plan that it would have ripple effects on other districts up and down the State of Vermont and that it was like putting a jigsaw puzzle together with everything interconnected.

Some numbers:

Fayston population went up by 212 people.

The plan calls for moving 370 people South of Route 17 in Fayston to district with Waitsfield and Warren. (Deviation -9.06)

The plan calls for moving the remaining 900+/- people in Fayston in with Moretown and Duxbury. (Deviation -4.65).

Questions, Answers and Comments as follows:

- Q. Rick Rayfield - If it was a 4-3 decision, how do you think it will play out in legislature?
- A. Tom – Believes the Towns and BCA have a lot to think about and need to consider single and two member districts.
- C. Bill Doyle – In many cases the legislatures do not follow BCA recommendations.

C. In 1965 it was one Town one House Member.

C. Robert Vasseur – In order to have 370 people in another district we will have to have another polling place, more clerks, another voting machine at considerable expense for 370 people.

C. Ann Day – If you are using Route 17 as the dividing line then people at the Battleground and people at the Mad River Barn will be voting in different districts, splitting the Mad River.

Q. Rick Rayfield – What if you leave the Valley the same and make it a two-member district?

A. Tom Little – We understand that these three Towns have been together for a long time. The Board did not look at keeping the Valley together and dividing another Town.

C. Jane Hobart – I have lived here 47 years and see this as a community issue. If you divide Fayston, we have the school in one district and divide South and North Fayston. It makes no sense.

C. Jim Leyton – Member of the Waitsfield BCA but speaking as a citizen of the Mad River Valley. What is the problem with a 14.5% deviation? It is the Mad River Valley Community and I am happy with under representation and wonder how many would actually feel under represented.

C. Tom Little – There is a court case that allowed for a 16% deviation and the 14.5% deviation may well approach tolerable limits but is clearly in the danger zone.

C. Tom Little – Once the Apportionment Board's proposal gets to the Legislature it is not to say all bets are off but the maps usually look substantially different. If the BCA advocates well they may be able to change the outcome.

C. Adam Greshin – what may also be helpful is the other minority data report that you (Tom Little) supported.

C. Tom Little – We looked at taking 175-200 people from Fayston and moving them in with Duxbury and Waterbury. The reason they are looking at Fayston is that it is the one generating the population deviation.

C. Judy Dimario – When I was a representative I covered Fayston, Warren, and Granville. Residents of Granville were very pleased that I went door to door.

C. Ed Read – Looking at this from a landscape point of view what looks good on paper is not when you get to the site. Geography and topography need consideration. He is not sure someone on the South side of Route 17 would care about Duxbury. Mad River Valley defines itself by its geography. 14.5% deviation is an infinite number and thinks mathematically this could work. Not only would the school be split, but Mad River Glen and Sugarbush as well.

C. Tom Little – It is the Courts that said that the residents (representation) are what really matter higher than anything else including schools, economic division of the Town, Planning Districts, etc.

C. Tom Little – Suggested that Fayston make a list of why 14.5% is not a problem for them.

Q. Tom Bisbee – What about having Waitsfield, Warren, Fayston, Moretown and Duxbury as one district with two representatives?

A. Tom Little – That might work.

C. Carol Hosford – Questions if she were a Fayston resident would she really feel under represented and suggested if so she would be tempted to fight for a single member district. She noted the Fayston School, combined Waitsfield/Fayston after school program.

C. Someone mentioned that perhaps Duxbury should be included but that they might not like being yanked from Waterbury.

C. Carla Lawrence – Waterbury Town clerk noted that their BCA had met June 20th and sent in their comments. They proposed that Waterbury not be split (as currently proposed) and suggested that Waterbury, Duxbury and Fayston become a two-member district.

C. Jim Sanford – Warren resident and PC member and representative on the MRVPD said that the three Towns (Fayston, Waitsfield, Warren) are not only geographically linked but share a common downtown area, town plans are linked, the Planning District does its best to bring the Towns together and use one Town's experience and expertise for the others as well. It has been incredibly successful. How much would another Representative pay attention to Fayston?

C. Gail Breslauer – Adamantly opposed to splitting Fayston. It does not make sense to split our community, the Mad River Valley. We have a shared Recreation District and Mad River Path Association. Already zip codes divide us. There is no under representation, these are just numbers being talked about.

C. Tom Little – Ten years ago the Valley deviation was 10.4%.

C. Adam Greshin – We were the largest single member district ten years ago and here we are again. Three members of the minority on the Apportionment Board had a plan to get around the population issue by Warren, Roxbury and Waitsfield as one and pairing Fayston with Duxbury. One possible argument is that you cannot get to Duxbury through Fayston. From a Representative standpoint, this is not about what the Representative wants it is about what the Towns want. Typically, it is easier for a Representative in a single member district, less confusing. In another ten years we are going to be facing this same problem again.

C. Tom Little – Told of how the Valley Towns were paired with others since 1965.

C. Bill Doyle – When and if an appeal of a decision reaches the Vermont Supreme Court the Towns will have to have a very high burden of proof as to why the plan will not work.

C. Tom Little – Noted that the Court has thrown out a 25% deviation case.

C. Judy Dimario – We have a common school that would be in a separate district.

C. Tom Little – All the common things that happen in the Valley would not stop because 300 people were split off in Fayston.

C. Tom Little – Ten years ago Kinney Connell staved off a 10.4% deviation but 14.5% is going to be more difficult. Only four Towns have a higher deviation.

C. Rick Rayfield – Has compiled a list of 20 connections within the Valley. He suggested that we may be looking at an opportunity to have Moretown and Duxbury included, although Duxbury may feel like a lonely child. Does the Valley deserve two Representatives?

C. Tom Little – The deviation if it were Waitsfield/Warren/Fayston/Moretown would be - 6.86%.

C. Ed Read – The valley is connected geographically but the Towns do not all feel the same about every issue.

C. Tom Little – The process is that the BCA should formally take a vote on what ever decision they make, then send copies of the minutes in with their comments to give the full color of the meeting.

C. Robert Vasseur – Would hope that the three Town BCAs would get together and come to an agreement on the issue.

C. David Frank – Does not agree with the comment that the shared entities, such as the Planning District, would not be changed should Fayston be split. For example the True North proposal coming to Fayston, IF the issue required representation he is not sure that piece would work.

C. Carla Lawrence – Questioned how the election process would work.

C. Patti Lewis – Read the answer to the election question sent by Kathleen Scheele from the Sec. of States Office dated June 30, 2011, which states:

“Actually the law allows two districts to vote at the same polling place so you may not need a second tabulator—one tabulator can be configured to read up to 100 different ballots. However, if we determine that Fayston needs a second tabulator, the state would pay for the tabulator, configuration, and maintenance. The town only pays for the configuration and maintenance. The

town only pays for the configuration of the memory cards.” (Patti noted that this would be the most expensive part and double the election budget.) “If a town has more than one representative district, then we add the second district to the voter registration statewide checklist so you will be able to select either district to print an entrance checklist.”

Meeting adjourned 9:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted:
Patti Lewis

Approved: Robert Vasseur Date: 8/11/11
Robert Vasseur, Chair BCA

Minutes of BCA Meeting
Thursday, August 11, 2011

Board Present: Robert Vasseur (Robert), Ed Read (Ed), Ann Day (Ann), Patti Lewis (Patti), Rick Rayfield (Rick), Lisa Koitzsch (Lisa)

Jared Cadwell (Jared) arrived 9:50 a.m.
Tom Bisbee (Tom) was not present.

Guests: None

Meeting called to order 9:30 a.m.

1. Ed made a motion to approve the minutes of July 11, 2011. Lisa seconded, all in favor, minutes approved.

2. BCA members discussed the following including but not limited to:

How each member felt about the possible split of Fayston into two districts?

Creating the letter to include the strongest opinion or include a second option.

The cost of elections if the Town was split.

Would Fayston have another chance to be heard after this initial letter?

Which Towns might or might not want to be together if the LAB decided to keep Fayston whole.

Was the BCA was supporting the MRVPD letter.

BCA then drafted a response letter, filled out the response form and agreed to attach Rick Rayfield's list of Valley similarities. See attached.

Robert made a motion to move the BCA letter directed to Tom Little dated August 11, 2011 as drafted at this meeting. Ann Day seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

3. BCA then moved to the Lister Office to meet with John Morrissey, Vermont State Appraiser, regarding the Bryn Smith Tax Appeal. Mr. Morrissey dismissed the case at 11:05 a.m. due to the Appellant not attending the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
Patti Lewis

Approved: _____ Date: _____

HOUSE REAPPORTIONMENT REPORT
Of the Board of Civil Authority of:
Fayston

DISTRICTS INCLUDED: Washington-3, Washington-5

This is a report of the decisions and discussions of the Board of Civil Authority of the town/city, concerning the initial House district reapportionment plan proposed by the Legislative Apportionment Board, as required by 17 V.S.A. §1905. It is due on or before August 1, 2011 at the Vermont Secretary of State's office:

128 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05633-1101

- 1.) **Dates the Board of Civil Authority met on the Reapportionment plan:**

July 11, 2011 and August 11, 2011

(Please provide copies of the minutes of each meeting)

- 2.) **Please name the district(s) reviewed that the BCA recommends changing:**

Washington 3, 5 (2011)

- 3.) **Please name the district(s) reviewed that the BCA does NOT recommend changing:**

Washington 1 (2002)

- 4.) **Description of District(s) recommended to be changed.**

Here we need the clearest, most concrete description of the district possible. For an example of the way this has been done in the past, please refer to Title 17, §§1893-1893a. Please use a separate sheet and use as much detail as possible. If the BCA's proposed district(s) have more than one member, please remember to include that detail. You may also copy the map provided to you and re-draw the line, if desired, but you must also include the description. *See Letter*

- 5.) **Comments and Justifications.**

Please attach a separate sheet with your rationale for either the change(s) that the BCA made or the rationale for leaving the district(s) as drawn by the Legislative Apportionment Board. *See Letter*

The Town of Fayston in the Mad River Valley

The connections of Fayston to the Mad River Valley are obvious to people who live here. They may not be obvious to people outside the Valley, or even too many people living in towns where the Mad River actually runs. For the last decade, Fayston, Waitsfield, and Warren have formed a House district, one hard-fought for ten years ago. This list was assembled in response to the Legislative Apportionment Board's proposal to put Waitsfield, Warren, and part of Fayston as one House district, and Duxbury, Moretown, and a larger portion of Fayston in another House district.

A district with all of Fayston and Waitsfield and Warren would be about 14% over the average population per district in Vermont, and so subject to adjustment or challenge in the Legislature and courts. This is largely due to population growth in Fayston, as the extensive holdings of the Ward Lumber Company have been sold off for residential development. Nonetheless, as options for apportionment are considered, we wish to review the variety and depth of connections between Fayston and the Mad River Valley community.

Here are some of Fayston's connections to the Mad River Valley:

1. Both Sugarbush North and Mad River Glen ski areas are in Fayston.
2. Fayston's Grand List includes ski clubs, and second home owners drawn to the Valley.
3. Fayston is part of the Mad River Planning District and the Mad River Recreation District. The Mad River Path Association runs trails in all three towns.
4. All Roads out of Fayston lead to the Mad River Valley, except Rte 17W.
5. One road leads to Warren, eight roads cross to Waitsfield. The town road crews in Fayston and Waitsfield have some shared road maintenance agreements.
6. Fayston and Waitsfield share a volunteer fire department.
7. Fayston and the Mad River Valley share the Mad River Valley Ambulance.
8. Fayston has no business district or post office of it own. It is split between 05673 and 05660 zip codes (Waitsfield and Moretown).
9. Fayston, Waitsfield, Warren and Moretown share the Harwood Middle School.

Waterbury and Duxbury have Crossett Brook Middle School.

10. Fayston has no churches of its own; but Waitsfield and Warren and Moretown have at least five active churches which are attended by people from Fayston. The Valley clergy are organized Valley-wide as the Interfaith Clergy Council.

11. Fayston's elementary school is at the south end of town, but serves the whole town.

12. Fayston makes a large contribution to the Joslin Memorial Library in Waitsfield.

13. Youth sports leagues- like Little League, T ball, soccer, etc. are organized for the whole Mad River Valley, including Fayston and Moretown. So is the Mad River Valley Co-Ed Softball League.

14. Fayston is an active community, not just a bedroom community or farm and forest. The following farms and home occupations in Fayston have web sites or marketing materials that identify their location in the Mad River Valley, or even in Waitsfield (for mailing).

Vermont Icelandic Horse Farm, Shepherds Brook Auto and Restoration, Recovery Room, MusicCraft, Lindsay Custom Builders and Design, Vermont Spice of Life, Mad River Barn, Mad River Building and Design, Eastman Long Maple Syrup, Vasseur Maple Syrup, Mad River Veterinary Service, Millbrook Inn, White Horse Inn, Hyde Away Inn, Mountain View Inn, Atii Sled Dogs, et al.

15. Fayston does not have a post office. Fayston residents get home delivery mail based out of Waitsfield or Moretown, or they have PO Boxes, in Waitsfield or Moretown.

16. There are properties which overlap Fayston/Waitsfield, and Fayston/Duxbury.

17. Rotary, Freemasons, Lions, Oddfellows, Gardening Club, Couples Club, The Community Fund, the Food Shelf, Valley Players, and other organizations draw membership from and serve the whole Mad River Valley.

18. The Mad River Valley Chamber of Commerce serves and supports the whole Valley.

19. The local phone, DSL, and cable company serves the whole Mad River Valley. It lists facts and figures for four towns in the local phone book: Fayston, Moretown, Waitsfield, and Warren. The independent public access TV station MRVTV, with two channels, has programming for Fayston, Waitsfield, and Warren Town affairs, programming for the whole Valley including schools.

20. Green Mountain Valley School is a major economic factor in the Valley (under-noticed as such), located in Fayston but with activities Valley-wide.

21. The *Valley Reporter*, our local paper, includes Fayston, Duxbury, Moretown, Waitsfield, Warren, and Waterbury on its masthead, has advertising, news, and business connections in all those towns, most strongly Fayston, Moretown, Waitsfield, and Warren, and has served the Valley admirably for decades.

22. All of Fayston, including Shepherd Brook and Mill Brook, and eight small streams drain into the Mad River. These are also fishing streams considered by fisherman as part of the Mad River Valley.

23. Historically....oh boy, where to start, Civil War or before.... lots and lots.

This is a partial list. Dated 7-15-2011

Rick Rayfield, Fayston Justice of the Peace/BCA member

See Attached Maps
to illustrate recommendation.

As Submitted
online 11/9/2021

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY FEEDBACK FORM

For the Submission of Feedback on the: VERMONT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - TENTATIVE RE-APPORTIONMENT PROPOSAL by the LEGISLATIVE APPORTIONMENT BOARD

The following is a report of the decisions and discussions of the Board of Civil Authority of the town/city, concerning the initial House district reapportionment plan proposed by the Legislative Apportionment Board, as required by 17 V.S.A. §1905; <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/17/034A/01905>

It is due on or before November 15, 2021 through this online portal.

This form is for reporting from the BCA through its authorized representative only. There should be only one report from any one BCA. This is not a portal for public comment. This link is not for public distribution. The public should be encouraged to comment to the BCA directly or can reach out to the LAB through its website <https://sos.vermont.gov/apportionment-board/contact-the-board/>

* Required

1. Town/City: *

Hartford

2. Name of Submitter: *

Lisa M. O'Neil

3. Role of Person Submitting This Form (Town Clerk, BCA Chair, etc.): *

Hartford Town Clerk

4. Contact Phone: *

802-295-2785

5. Contact Email: *

loneil@hartford-vt.org

6. Date(s) the Board of Civil Authority met on the reapportionment plan: *

November 4, 2021

7. District(s) reviewed that the BCA recommends changing:

Please use the district names used in the proposed map.

WSR-3; WSR-6; WSR-7

8. District(s) reviewed that the BCA recommends keeping as proposed:

Please use the district names used in the proposed map.

None

9. Description of District(s) recommended to be changed: *

Please provide a clear description of the recommended district. For an example of the way this has been done in the past, please refer to 17 V.S.A. §1893: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/17/034/01893>. Use as much detail as possible. If the BCA's proposed district(s) have more than one member, please include that detail. You may also copy the map provided to you and re-draw the line, if desired, but you must also include the description. If necessary, email any attachments to sos.bcafeedback@vermont.gov and clearly include your town and district in the title and body of the email.

The Hartford BCA recommends retaining the current apportionment districts (as established in 2012) as described in the link referenced above <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/17/034/01893>; The descriptions are re-stated below: (I also e-mailed copies of the maps to: sos.bcafeedback@vermont.gov.)

HARTFORD (known as WDR-4-1 in 2012): This is a single member district containing the towns of Barnard, Pomfret, and that portion of the town of Hartford encompassed within a boundary beginning at the point where the boundary line of Hartford and the town of Norwich intersects with Newton Lane; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of Newton Lane to the intersection of Jericho Street; then westerly along the northern side of the centerline of Jericho Street to the intersection of Dothan Road; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of Dothan Road to the intersection of VT Route 14; then westerly along the northern side of the centerline of VT Route 14 to the intersection of the centerline of Runnels Road and VT Route 14; then at a right angle to a utility pole marked 137T/6 ET&T/3>/136MP Corp/156/40030 on the south edge of Route 14; then southerly in a straight line across the White River to the junction of Old River Road and the beginning of Costello Road; then southerly and easterly along the centerline of Costello Road to its end on U.S. Route 4; then westerly along the northern side of the centerline of U.S. Route 4 to the boundary of the town of Hartland; then westerly and northerly along the town line of Hartland to the boundary of Pomfret; then northeasterly along the town line of Pomfret to the boundary of Norwich; then southeasterly along the town line of Norwich to the point of beginning.

HARTFORD (known as WDR-4-2 in 2012): This is a two-member district described as follows: That portion of the town of Hartford not located in WINDSOR-4-1.

10. Rationale and comments: *

Please give in detail your rationale for the change(s) that the BCA made as well as rationale for leaving the district(s) as drawn by the Legislative Apportionment Board.

The BCA voted unanimously to recommend the Alternate Plan, as drafted/proposed by Jeanne Albert, for Hartford's Legislative Districts for the following reasons:

- Demographically and geographically, Hartford residents see themselves as one community with similar interests, regardless of their location in Town. The Eastern portion of Hartford is the most densely populated and the most closely connected. Dividing our current two-member district into two separate one member districts divides our community in an unnatural way. The Seven Member Select Board members are elected at-large and serve the entire community rather than by ward or neighborhood; The Town of Hartford is a single School District rather than a unified district with other communities. The five-member School Board is also elected at large to serve the entire community.
- Increasing the number of districts would cause voter confusion (many Hartford residents are still unsure which district to vote in when they come to the central polling location). Increasing the number of single member districts could necessitate an additional polling place exacerbating voter confusion and frustration. The current District configuration has been in place for three decades; the existing model is working and serves our townspeople well. At a time when the State and local communities are trying to inspire voter participation further splitting the Hartford community as proposed by LAB could lead to voters feeling separated from town matters and disenfranchised, resulting in voter apathy.
- Adding a third legislative district makes administering elections challenging. The BCA has concerns over logistical challenges if an additional polling place is needed. Our current, central polling place accommodates two districts but adding a third district could require an additional polling location. The BCA members could not readily identify an additional available facility to conduct a secure, safe election. In addition, three districts would increase costs, require additional tabulators & programming, and increase time and staffing to manage and tabulate election results.
- Leaving Hartford as two districts, UNCHANGED, does NOT affect any other districts therefore it would not create a ripple effect across the State.
- The modest population growth within our two districts leaves the total numbers within the acceptable deviation range for a two-member district.

Submit

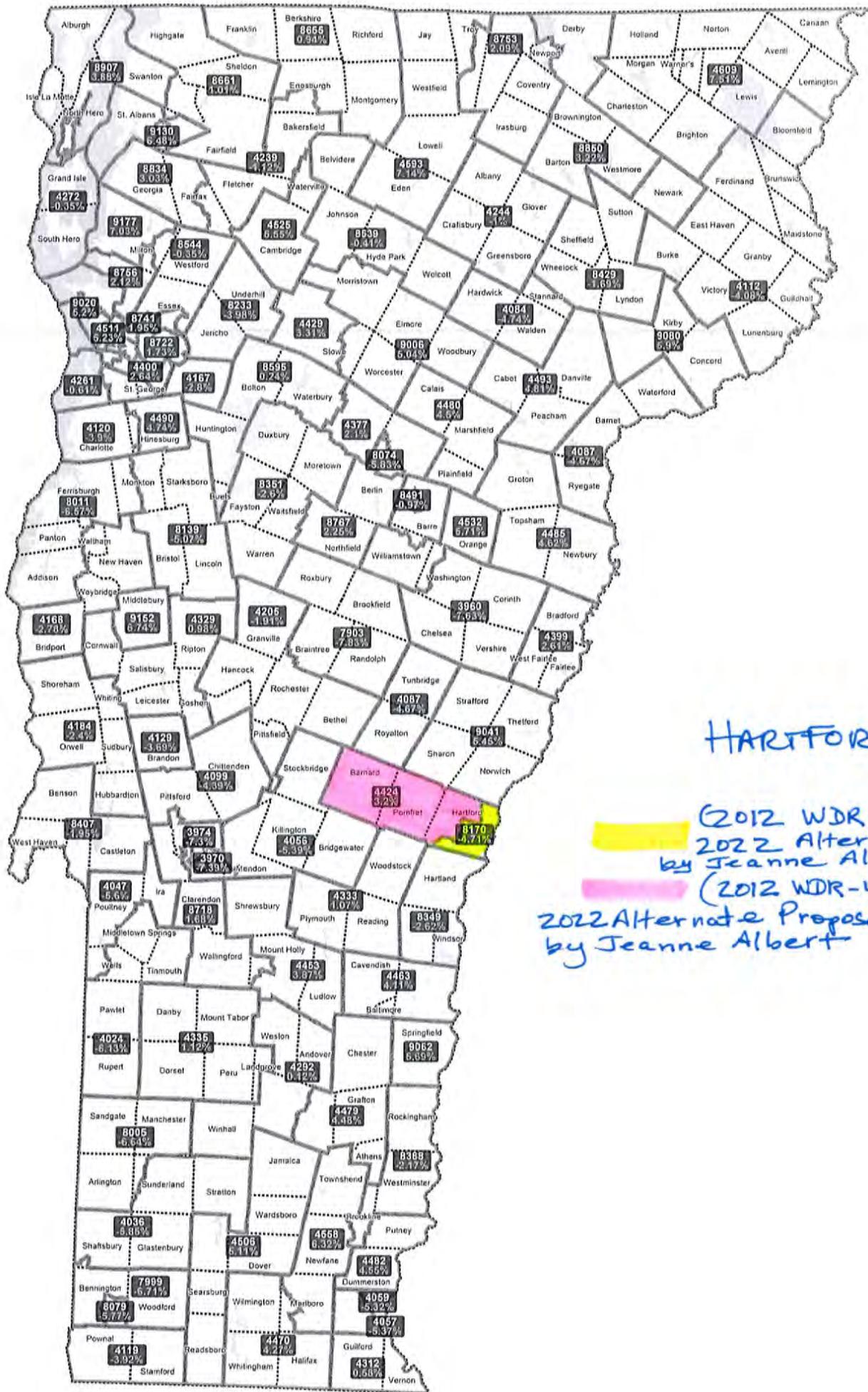
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HARTFORD

2022 WDR-4-2
2022 Alternate Proposal
by Jeanne Albert

2022 WDR-4-1
2022 Alternate Proposal
by Jeanne Albert

District Descriptions taken from <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/17/034/01893>

WINDSOR-4-1 (2012 District name): Barnard, Pomfret, and that portion of the town of Hartford encompassed within a boundary beginning at the point where the boundary line of Hartford and the town of Norwich intersects with Newton Lane; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of Newton Lane to the intersection of Jericho Street; then westerly along the northern side of the centerline of Jericho Street to the intersection of Dothan Road; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of Dothan Road to the intersection of VT Route 14; then westerly along the northern side of the centerline of VT Route 14 to the intersection of the centerline of Runnels Road and VT Route 14; then at a right angle to a utility pole marked 137T/6 ET&T/3>/136MP Corp/156/40030 on the south edge of Route 14; then southerly in a straight line across the White River to the junction of Old River Road and the beginning of Costello Road; then southerly and easterly along the centerline of Costello Road to its end on U.S. Route 4; then westerly along the northern side of the centerline of U.S. Route 4 to the boundary of the town of Hartland; then westerly and northerly along the town line of Hartland to the boundary of Pomfret; then northeasterly along the town line of Pomfret to the boundary of Norwich; then southeasterly along the town line of Norwich to the point of beginning

..... 1

WINDSOR-4-2 (2012 District name) That portion of the town of Hartford not located in WINDSOR-4-1

..... 2



VERMONT CENTER FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

This is a map reflecting the LEGISLATIVE APPOINTMENT BOARD'S initial House district reapportionment plan, as required by 27 V.S.A. §1905 and sent to the Boards of Civil Authority for their discussion and feedback no later than November 15, 2021. The Legislative Apportionment Board will consider BCA feedback and incorporate it into a final proposal to the Legislature. Get the data.

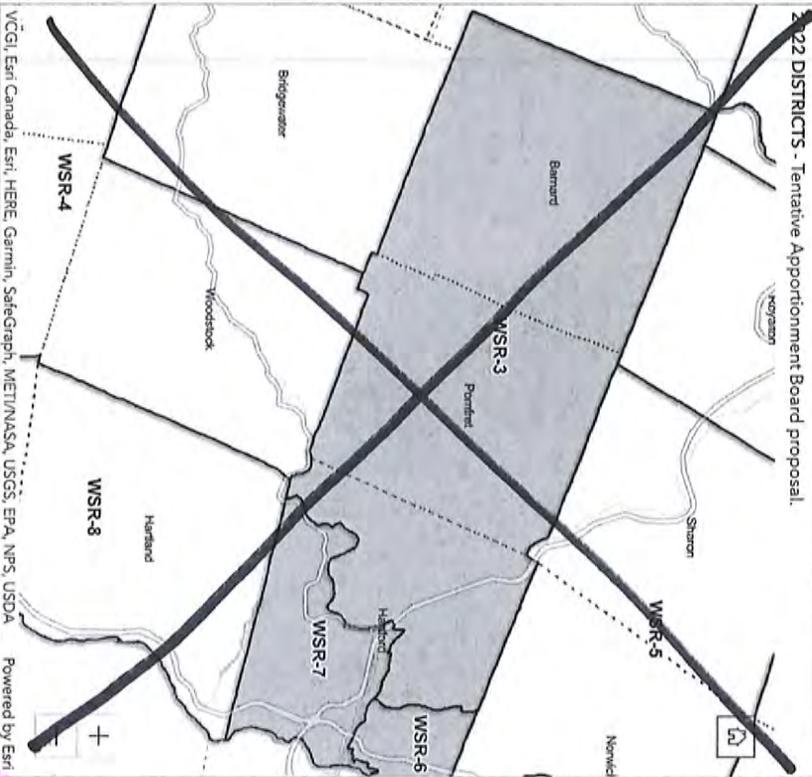
Last Updated: 10/18/2021

Town Boundaries (Census 2020 Vintage)

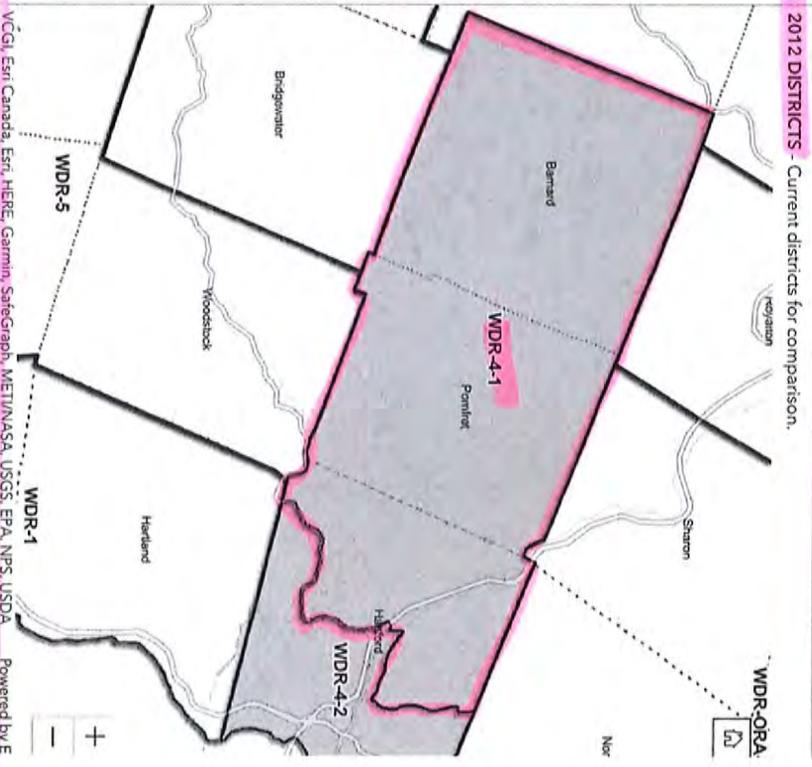
House District Boundary

Districts Map Details

2022 DISTRICTS - Tentative Apportionment Board proposal.



2012 DISTRICTS - Current districts for comparison.



** Retain 2012 Map
2012 known as WDR-4-1
with a single member district
comprised of Bernard, Pomfret
and the portion of Hartford
not in WDR-4-2. Description
attached*



VERMONT CENTER FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

This is a map reflecting the LEGISLATIVE APPOINTMENT BOARD's initial house district reapportionment plan, as required by 17 V.S.A. §1902, and sent to the Boards of Civil Authority for their discussion and feedback no later than November 15, 2021. The Legislative Apportionment Board will consider BCA feedback and incorporate it into a final proposal to the Legislature. Get the data.

Last Updated: 10/18/2021

Town Boundaries (Census 2020 Vintage)

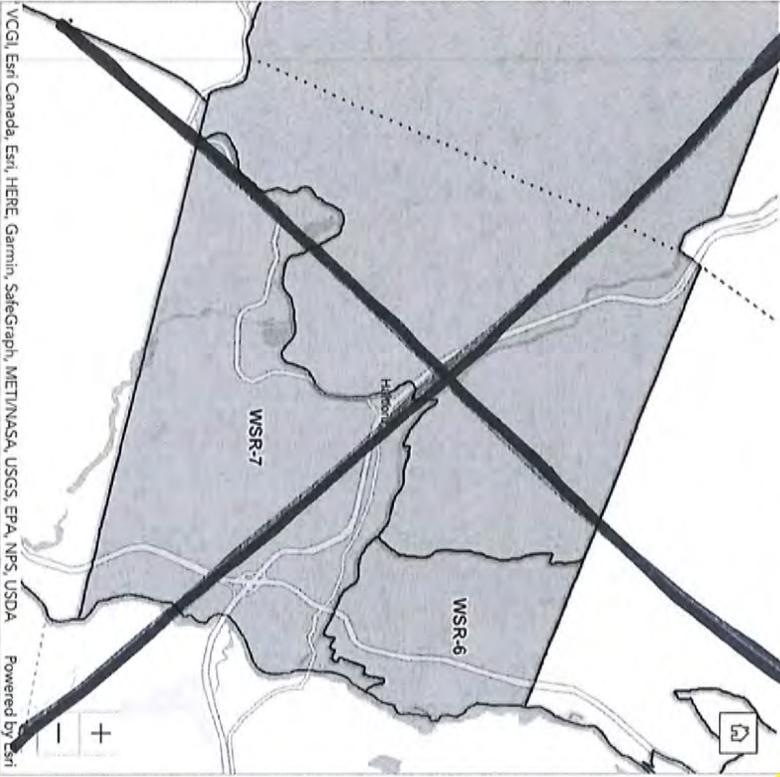
House District Boundary



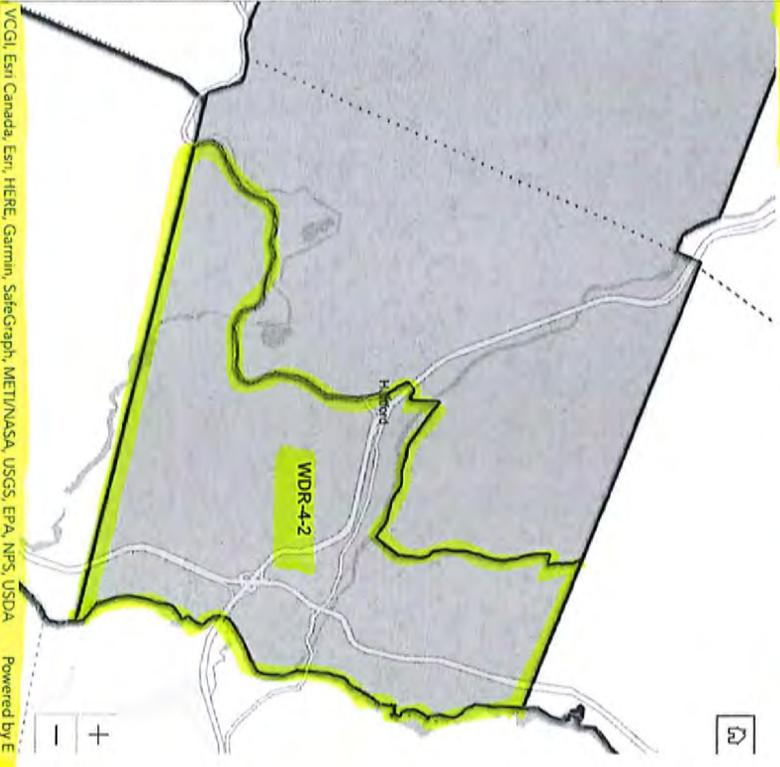
Districts

Map Details

2022 DISTRICTS - Tentative Apportionment Board proposal.



2012 DISTRICTS - Current districts for comparison.



**Retain 2012 Map
2012 known as WDR-4-2
with two-member district
for this portion of Hartford
Description attached*

VCGL, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA Powered by Esri

VCGL, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA Powered by E



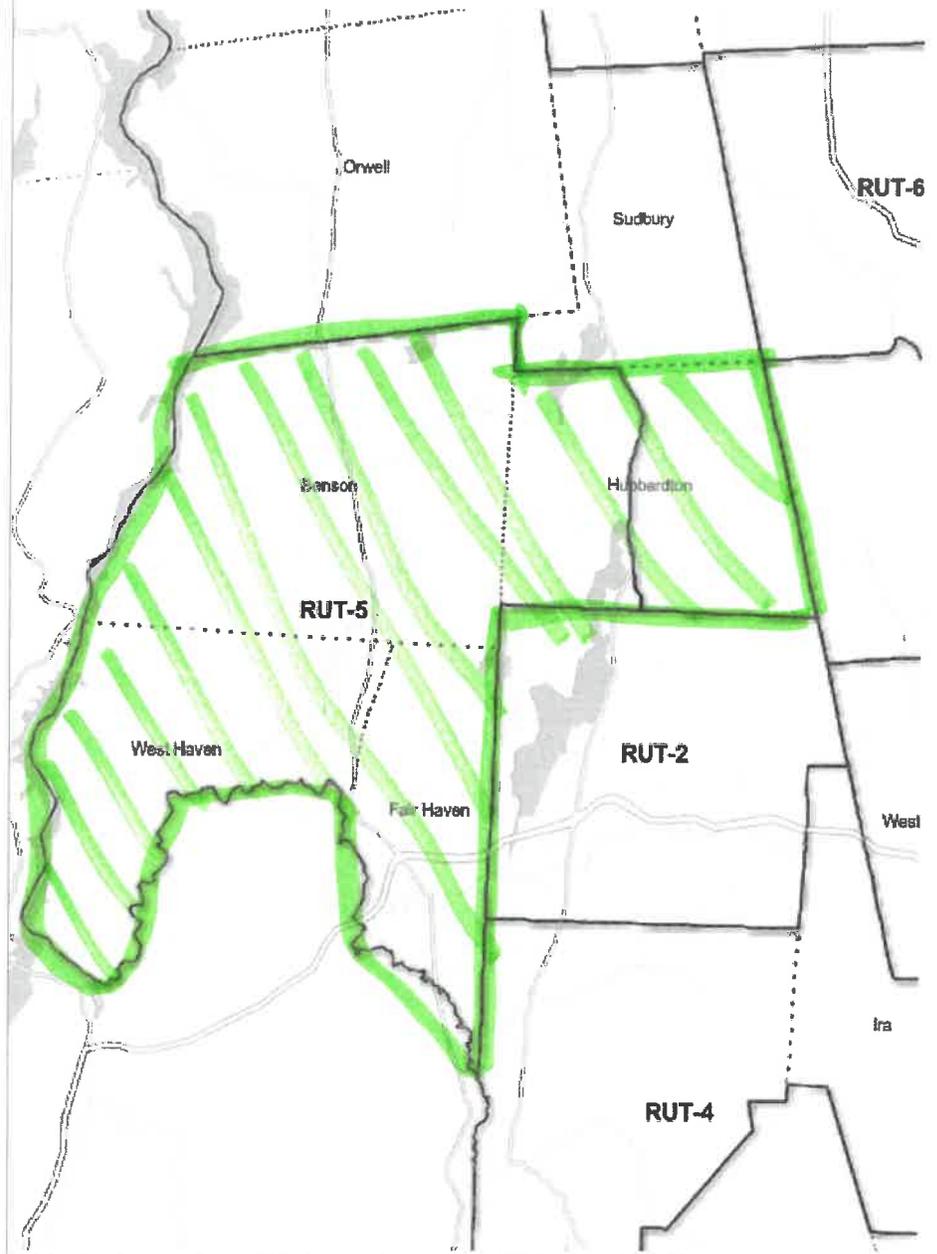
Districts for the Selected Municipality

Select town from dropdown in top-right corner to see district details.

Districts

Map Details

2022 DISTRICTS - Tentative Apportionment Board proposal.



VCGI, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA

map for drawing our recommended district lines

Town of Jamaica

Board of Civil Authority

Board Members Present: Greg Meulemans Chair, Greg Joly, Clara Robinson, Karen Ameden, Rob Willis, Heather Bartels, Tom Tolbert, Jessica Pollack, Sara Wiswall

To the Legislative Apportionment Board:

Documents were shared with everyone including the map of the Legislative Apportionment Board's (LAB) proposed House District for Jamaica, the email from the LAB explaining the process and asking for feedback, the VT State Statute on reapportionment, the language in the VT Constitution about Representative districts, and maps of other proposed options for district configuration. The Board read through the documents provided. Some questions about process were addressed. It was noted that the ideal population number for a House District is currently 4,287. The Board decided to go through the criteria for district creation in the VT Constitution and State Statutes point by point to discuss the LAB's proposed district, the current district and the five options being considered by the BCA to be offered as feedback to the LAB.

There was much discussion at this meeting about what is best for Jamaica. Who our community is, in regard to equality of representation, geographical compactness and contiguity. Preservation of political subdivision lines. Recognition and maintenance of geography, social interaction, trade, political ties and common interests. Also, the use of compact and contiguous territory. These being the 4 points that the Legislative Apportionment Board uses to reconfigure the map.

The current House District is made up of Jamaica, Londonderry, Stratton, Weston and Winhall. (2020 census population: 5169)

The proposed reapportionment with the 2020 Census Population by LAB is Jamaica, Stratton, Winhall, Peru, Landgrove and Sunderland. (2020 Census Population: 4391)

The first point under consideration was in relation to Chapter 11, §13, Vt. Constitution: "In establishing representative district, which shall afford equality of representation, the General Assembly shall seek to maintain geographical compactness and contiguity..."

The LAB's proposed district is not compact and is barely contiguous to the region and often creates hazardous travel conditions during the winter.

This extremely large geographic district with wide varying economic and educational differences makes it very difficult for a House Representative to effectively represent any of us. This Representative would be pulled in many directions and not able to focus his or her ability to do their job.

In the interest of maintaining a district that demonstrates both geographic compactness and contiguity while remaining in an acceptable degree of deviation from the population ideal, we recommend keeping the current Windham-Bennington-Windsor District as intact as population will allow for.

The second point under consideration is 17 V.S.A. §1903 (b)(1) preservation of existing political subdivision lines.

The LAB proposed district has the Towns of Stratton and Sunderland being grouped together as they share a border, but that shared border is made up of mountains with a 45 minute ride around these mountains in good weather through two other towns. There is a rough 14-mile dirt road through the National Forest that is not maintained during the winter months connecting the two. Winhall is closer but does not share a border (just a corner point) and you still have to go through the town of Manchester to get to Sunderland with it taking a good half hour.

This makes Jamaica even further away from Sunderland and having no existing ties to their community. Jamaica is a bedroom community for adjoining Stratton Mountain Ski area. Although, not just Stratton, many of our residents are employed by any of our surrounding ski areas.

There is a huge line of mountains which separate the Mountain Towns from Sunderland in the Manchester area. There are distinct differences with these areas. It would be extremely difficult for a House Representative to cover such a broad range of needs from very different areas.

The third point under consideration is 17 V.S.A. §1903 (b)(2) recognition and maintenance of patterns of geography, social interaction, trade, political ties, and common interests. The comments about the geographic challenges of this district were reiterated: lack of boundary continuity, geological barriers, and limited State Highway access within the district.

There is a distinct lack of close social interaction or political ties with Sunderland in comparison to the options being considered for recommendation. The following are all examples of social interaction, trade, political ties, and common interests

The western border of Jamaica runs alongside Winhall with two well-traveled roads connecting the two towns and with one road connecting to the Town of Stratton. The southern border of Jamaica runs alongside Wardsboro having two well-traveled roads between the towns. A large border with Townshend a direct road. Windham with two of Jamaica's hamlets directly imbedded in their community. Londonderry with a shared border and a direct road.

With these two towns we share much in terms of geography, social interaction, trade, political ties, and common interests. One point being when we or our surrounding towns are flooded which happens every so often, we are able to work together and our roads sometimes become their only way of access. We share much in common with any of our surrounding towns in terms of education. Londonderry and Townshend being neighboring towns where our residents go grocery shopping.

The fourth point under consideration is 17 V.S.A. §1903 (b)(3) use of compact and contiguous territory. It appears that the district was created purely based on population numbers and not at all because of proximity or continuity with one another. The same comments about geography, means of travel and a lack of contiguous border were noted.

It was noted that the strong connect between Jamaica, Stratton and Winhall were important considerations.

The Jamaica BCA feels that we do NOT meet the criteria under the LAB 4 points with Sunderland. We meet the 4 points that the LAB uses to determine the reconfiguration with any of our surrounding towns. We have connections to all of our surrounding towns.

We have put together 5 different options. As you can see, we are willing to be with any of our surrounding towns and feel we have a real connection to them all.

We understand how difficult this is but feel that Sunderland would not work.

Option 1 –Jamaica, Winhall, Stratton, Wardsboro, Windham (2020 Census Population: 3945)

Option 2- Jamaica, Stratton, Wardsboro, Windham, Townshend (2020 Census Population: 4054)

Option 3- Peru, Landgrove, Winhall, Wardsboro, Jamaica, Stratton (2020 Census Population: 4204)

Option 4-Jamaica, Stratton, Winhall, Wardsboro, Townshend (2020 Census Population: 4787)

Option 5 -Jamaica, Stratton, Winhall, Londonderry (2020 Census Population: 4546)

Thank you,

Greg Meulemans, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Meulemans', written in a cursive style.

TOWN OF KILLINGTON
BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2021 AT 4:00 P.M.
Sherburne Memorial Library & via Zoom

PRESENT: **Board of Civil Authority:** Beverly Anderson, Will Ehmann, Stephen Finneron, Jim Haff*, Chuck Hughes, Chris Karr*, Peggy Neisner, Judy Storch, Lucrecia Wonsor
**via Zoom*

GUESTS: Representative, Jim Harrison

- I. Chris Karr, BCA Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:08 pm.
- II. Representative, Jim Harrison was present to explain the goals of the Vermont Legislative Apportionment Board (LAB) and answer questions from the BCA. Representative Harrison left to attend another meeting and the Board entered into a detailed discussion regarding feedback it wished to give to the LAB.

The Board reviewed the LAB's proposed re-drawing of districts taking into consideration the LAB's goal of having 150 districts each with a population as close to 4,287 as possible. The proposed Rutland-13 made up of Pittsfield, Stockbridge, Killington, Bridgewater, part of Mendon and part of Bethel would have a population of 4,125 (162 under the desired number). The Board could not see the rationale behind the proposed district, other than it accomplished the goal of lowering the population number so that it is closer to the target that the LAB was looking to achieve. Killington and Pittsfield would be the only "whole" towns with a small portion of Mendon that are located within Rutland County. The towns of Bridgewater, Stockbridge and part of Bethel are located within Windsor County yet the name of the proposed district is Rutland-13.

The Board determined that its goals were: i) to remain in a district with towns whose representation interests aligned best with Killington; ii) that there not be any towns split between districts; and iii) if possible, the towns be located within Rutland County. Keeping the current Rutland-Windsor-1 District lines, which includes Chittenden, Killington, Mendon and Bridgewater, would put the district population at 4,696 (409 over the desired number). Of these towns, Bridgewater was the only town not located within Rutland County and over the years the representation interests of these towns were well aligned. In an effort to get closer to the desired population number and achieve the Killington BCA's goals identified above, the Board considered a district made up of Mendon, Chittenden, Killington and Pittsfield. This proposed district would: i) contain towns whose representation interests align best with Killington; ii) not have any towns split between districts; and iii) be made up of towns within Rutland County. In addition to achieving the Killington BCA's goals, a proposed district of Mendon, Chittenden, Killington and Pittsfield would have a district population of 4,302 – although it is 15 over the desired number, it is for the most part on target with the LAB's goal.

Motion by Chuck Hughes to recommend re-drawing the Rutland-13 District to include the towns of Mendon, Killington, Pittsfield and Chittenden in their entirety. Steve Finneron seconded. All in favor.

KILLINGTON BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

Minutes of November 8, 2021

Page 2 of 2

III. Other Business – None.

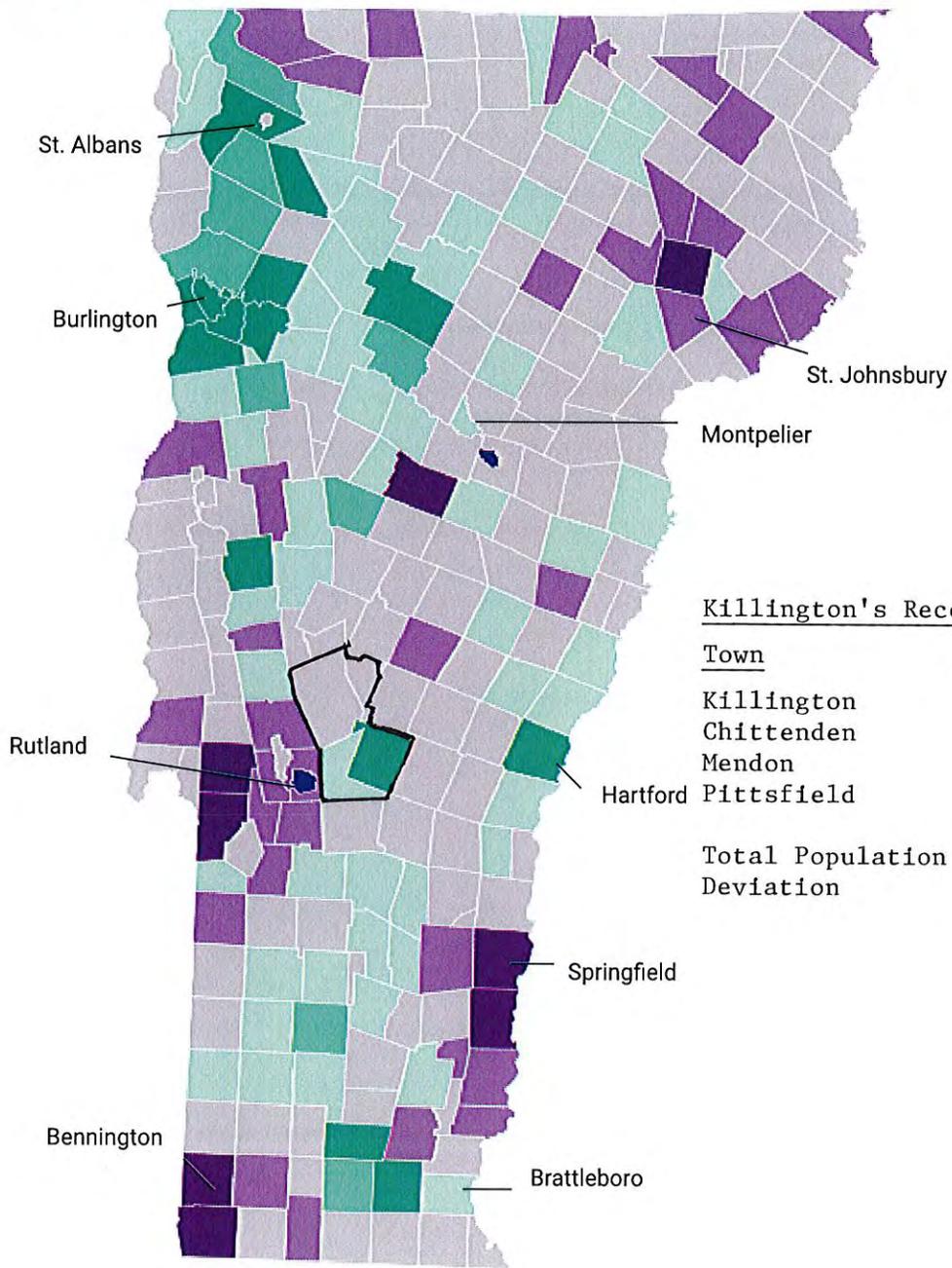
IV. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 4:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucrecia Wonsor", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Lucrecia Wonsor
Clerk

Change in Population (2010-2020)

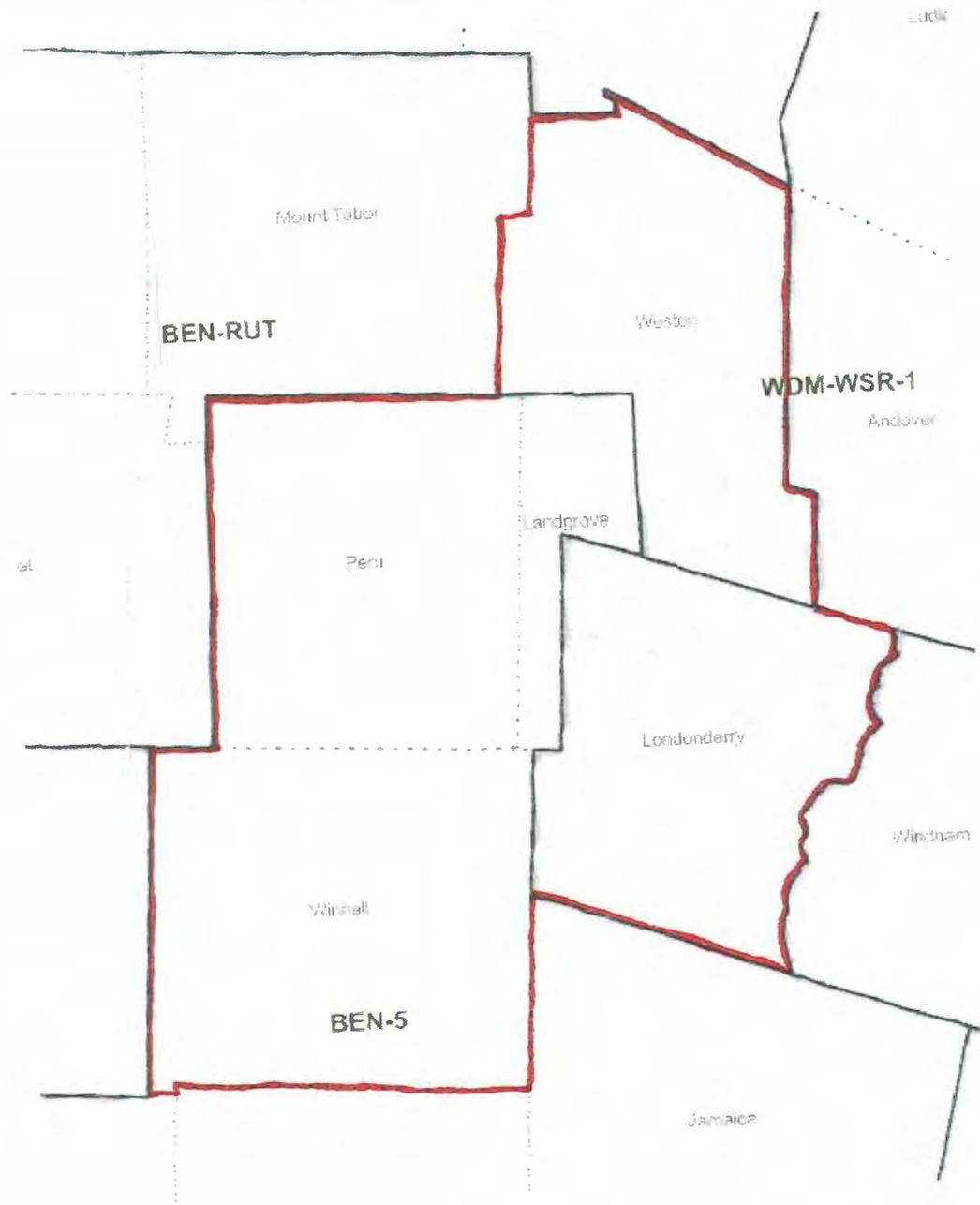


Killington's Recommendation

<u>Town</u>	<u>Population</u>
Killington	1,407
Chittenden	1,237
Mendon	1,149
Pittsfield	903
Total Population	4,302
Deviation	+15



Map: vcgi.vermont.gov • Source: US Census • [Get the data](#) • [Embed](#) • [Download image](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)



2021 House District Reapportionment

(Selectboard) FEEDBACK

1. **Town/City:** Milton
2. **Name of Submitter:** Kristin Beers
3. **Role of Person Submitting This Form (Town Clerk, BCA Chair, etc.):** Town Clerk
4. **Contact Phone:** 802-893-4111
5. **Contact Email:** kbeers@miltonvt.gov
6. **Date(s) the BCA met on the reapportionment plan:** Wednesday, October 27, 2021
7. **District(s) reviewed that the BCA recommends changing:** GI-CHI-1, CHI-3-1, CHI-3-2 and CHI-6
8. **Districts(s) reviewed that the BCA recommends keeping as proposed:** None
9. **Description of District(s) recommended to be changed:** On October 27, 2021, the Milton BCA voted unanimously to keep our current two 2-member districts GI-CHI and CHI-10 as they exist. Only if the LAB will not leave Milton districts as-is, and insists on changing to one-member districts, we suggest:
 - a. The description of the **GI-CHI-1** district would be changed to say: "... and that portion of the town of Milton encompassed within a boundary beginning at the mouth of the Lamoille River and Lake Champlain; then along the river upstream to the Interstate 89 bridge crossing the Lamoille River; then northerly along the centerline of Interstate 89 to the boundary of the town of Georgia; then along the Georgia town line to Lake Champlain; then southerly along the lakeshore to the point of the beginning. 1 House Representative."
 - b. The description of **CHI-3-1** would be changed to say "Milton; beginning at the point where the centerline of Interstate 89 intersects the boundary of the town of Georgia; then southerly along the centerline of Interstate 89 to the bridge crossing the Lamoille River; then along the river downstream to the bridge at Bear Trap Road and West Milton Road; then easterly along the centerline of West Milton Road to the intersection of US Route 7 South; then easterly along the centerline of US Route 7 South to the intersection of Bombardier Road; then easterly along the centerline of Bombardier Road to the intersection of Middle Road; then northerly along the centerline of Middle Road until the intersection of US Route 7 North; then northerly along the centerline of US Route 7 North and River Street to the intersection of Main Street; then easterly along the centerline of Main Street and Westford Road to the boundary of the town of Westford; then northerly along the Westford town line to the boundary of Georgia; then westerly along the Georgia town line to the point of beginning at Interstate 89. 1 House Representative."
 - c. The description of **CHI-3-2** would be changed to say "Milton; beginning at the mouth of the Lamoille River and Lake Champlain; then along the river upstream to the bridge at Bear Trap Road and West Milton Road; then easterly along the centerline of West Milton Road to the intersection of US Route 7 South; then easterly along the centerline of US Route 7 South to the intersection of Bombardier Road; then easterly along the

centerline of Bombardier Road to the intersection of Middle Road; then northerly along the centerline of Middle Road until the intersection of US Route 7 North; then northerly along the centerline of US Route 7 North and River Street to the intersection of Main Street; then easterly along the centerline of Main Street and Westford Road to the boundary of the town of Westford; then southerly along the Westford town line to the boundary of the town of Colchester; then westerly along the Colchester town line to the point of beginning. 1 House Representative.”

10. **Rationale and comments:** The Milton BCA voted unanimously to keep our current two 2-member districts GI-CHI and CHI-10 as they exist. The numbers are well within the desired limits, creating less confusion for the voters. The current GI-CHI district has a population of 8,283 with 2 representatives, which is a deviation from the ideal of -145.5, only -3%. The current CHI-10 district has a population of 9,039 with 2 representatives, which is a deviation from the ideal of 232.5, only 5%. These numbers are within the allowed 10% deviation (over or under). The Milton BCA strongly believes that our current districts work, without encroaching the borders of the town. If divided into 4 districts, voters will feel disconnected, unrepresented, disenfranchised and like they don't belong to Milton. The LAB proposal will not only “chop” Milton up, but (from vast experience working with voters) will add to the confusion, even more than we already have with our two current districts. In today's climate, we don't want to increase voter confusion. Also, the vertical line that the LAB used to divide the proposed GI-CHI-1 and CHI-3-1 districts is not easily described, nor obvious to any resident of Milton. The LAB appears to have used a small stream of water through an area of town, where it would be much clearer to use streets or larger landmarks, such as Interstate 89 or the Lamoille River. As a group, the BCA agreed unanimously that we do not accept the LAB's proposed reapportionment.

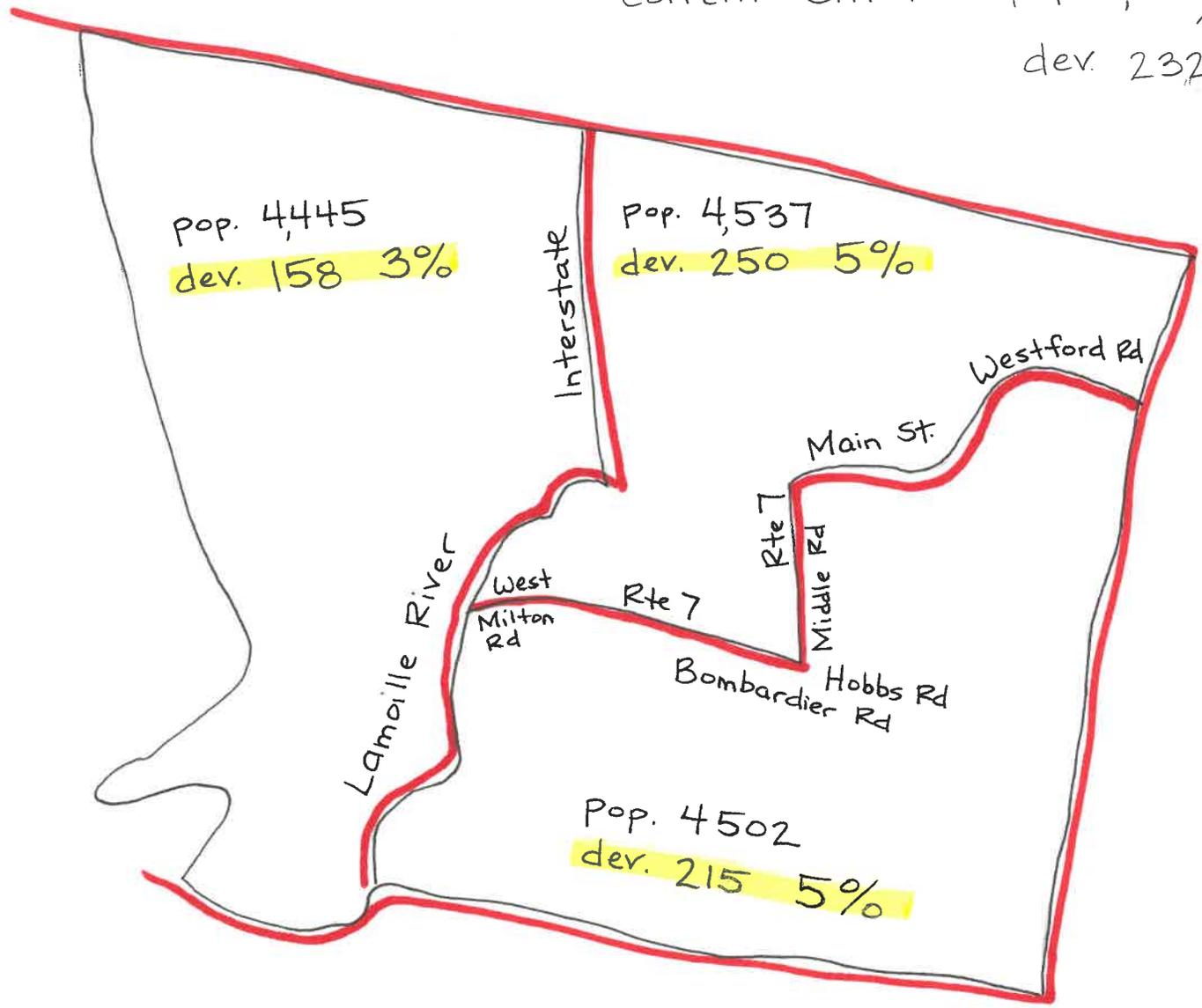
Only if the LAB will not leave Milton districts as-is, and insists on changing to one-member districts, we suggest the previously described three 1-member districts for Milton.

- We moved the westerly boundary of the **GI-CHI-1** district back to the Interstate 89 and Lamoille River, changing the district population to 4,445, a deviation of 158, which is 3%.
- We excluded the 360 Georgia residents from **CHI-3-1** and took back 553 Milton residents from the proposed Westford district CHI-6. With the adjustment to the Interstate and Lamoille River, this **CHI-3-1 district**, now entirely within Milton, has a population of 4,537, a deviation of 250, which is 5%.
- With the adjustment of the westerly border of **CHI-3-2** to the Lamoille River, that district population changed to 4502, with a deviation of 215, which is 5%.

Milton's proposal

Current GI-CHI pop. $\frac{8,283}{2} = 4,141.5$
dev. -145.50 -3%

Current CHI-10 pop. $\frac{9,039}{2} = 4,519.5$
dev. 232.50 5%



LAB ideal district pop. 4,287

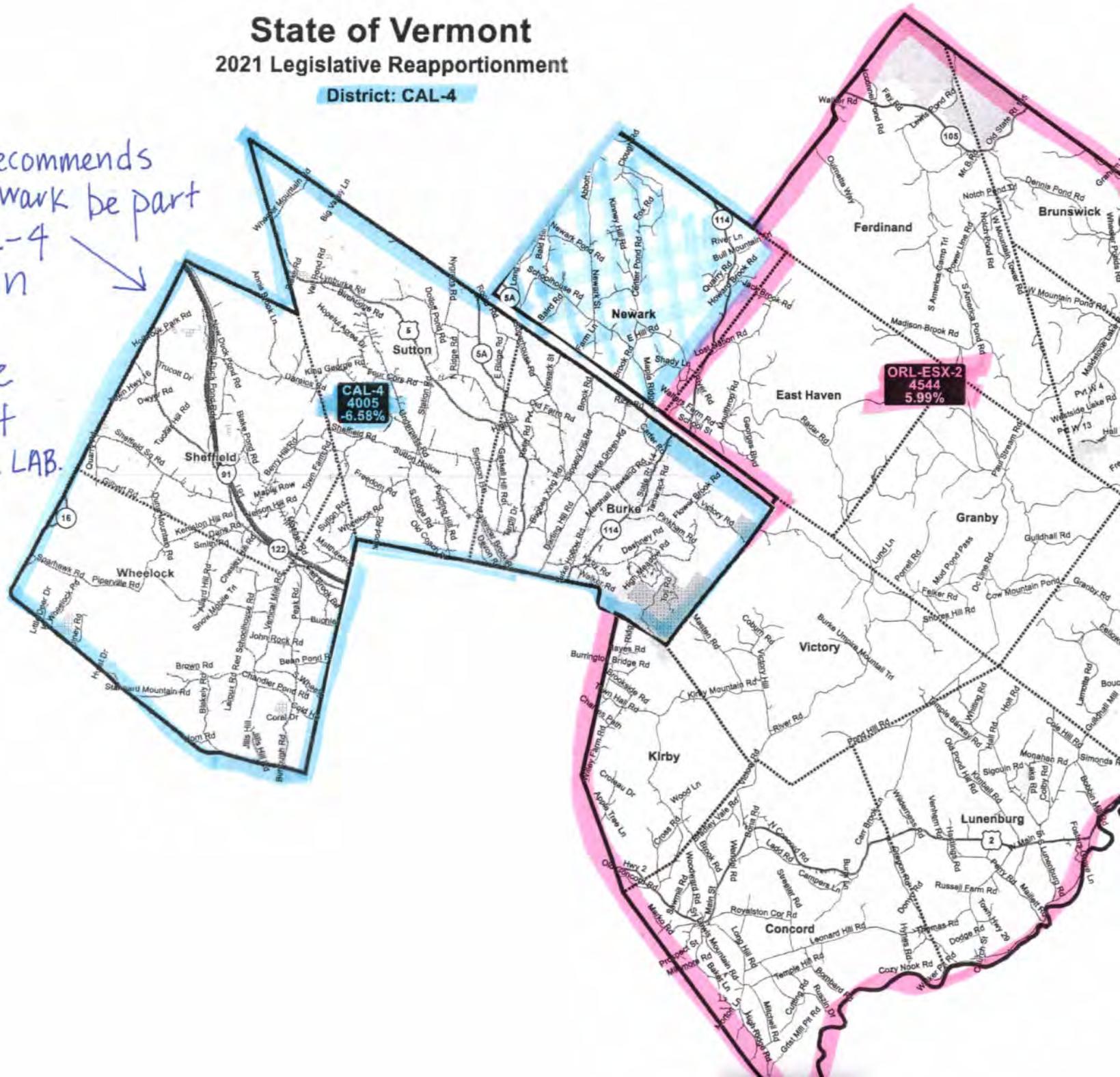


State of Vermont 2021 Legislative Reapportionment

District: CAL-4

The Newark BCA recommends that the Town of Newark be part of the proposed CAL-4 district, outlined in blue and not be combined with the ORL-ESX-2 district as proposed by the LAB.

-Thank you



Town of Ripton Board of Civil Authority Response to Reapportionment Proposal

The BCA for the Town of Ripton hereby responds to the proposal from the Appportionment Board affecting our Town. We list below our concerns and reasons for disagreement.

1. The district proposed by the Appportionment Board groups Ripton, on the western slopes of the Green Mountains, with Hancock, Granville, Rochester and Bethel, all on the eastern slopes. This proposal is extremely concerning to the Ripton BCA because a mountain gap not only separates us from those four towns, but all our affiliations and greater community are to the west.

- A majority of residents commute to Middlebury for work.
- Students in grades 6-12 attend school in Middlebury.
- Middlebury is our shire town.
- Middlebury College is a major employer.
- The nearest, most frequented, stores, services, and cultural institutions are in Middlebury.
- Porter Hospital in Middlebury is the nearest health care facility.
- The *Addison Independent* is the only newspaper that covers Ripton issues.

Ripton is a member of or served by the following, all located to the west:

- Addison County Firefighters Association
- Addison County Regional Planning Commission
- Addison County Sheriff's Department
- Addison County Solid Waste Management District
- Maple Broadband Communications Union District - in planning phase (Granville, Hancock, Rochester and Bethel belong to EC Fiber and have high speed internet access.)
- Middlebury Regional EMS
- Riverwatch of Addison County - monitors water quality in the Otter Creek/Lake Champlain watershed. The towns to the east are in the White River watershed.

2. Being the lone town grouped with four others on the other side of one-two mountains isolates us from our areas of experience and concern. A representative would focus on the needs of the eastern towns, at the expense, we fear, of Ripton. Few people in Ripton have regular business in any of the other towns, especially Bethel.

3. The Ripton BCA has wrestled with complex town matters that require compromise and difficult choices. We are sympathetic that reapportionment is complex, but feel strongly that tweaking the existing system of more geographically and economically connected communities to accommodate the census changes is preferable. Our small population (739) is little more than 15% of the size of an ideal district, so not likely to cause a huge swing in the actual numbers of any district with which we are included. We understand the rationale for single-member districts (we are in one), but think keeping two members in cohesive communities (Middlebury and Bristol) makes sense.

Ripton Board of Civil Authority: Anza Armstrong, Laureen Cox, Alison Joseph Dickinson, Perry Hanson, Timothy Hanson, Richard "Kim" Kimler, Warren King, Bonnie Swan

Addendum

We are reminded of the old plot layouts of the Town that were originally laid out in Connecticut in 1781 without any consideration as to where the land actually lay. When the settlers finally viewed the land they acquired they found that some of the lots ended up being on mountain tops, in gorges, or some times, if the buyer was lucky, on actual (semi-) flable land. In a similar way, the district proposed by the Apportionment Board seems like it was made without consideration of the realities on the ground as it puts two ridges of the Green Mountains between us and other proposed member towns. To further point out the isolation between Ripton and the other towns in the proposed district, the State Highway District splits between the Northwest and Southeast Maintenance District at the top of Middlebury Gap. It's not just the Breadloaf/ Worth Mountain gap that needs to be surmounted to get to Hancock and Rochester—Bethel is also separated from Rochester by another mountain ridge, requiring navigating the Bethel Mountain Road or following the circuitous route following 100 and 107. Google maps shows the trip from Ripton to Bethel as 33 miles and takes 45 minutes. Pity the poor state representative who tries to go to all the town meetings in one evening!



TOWN OF RUTLAND, VERMONT

181 Business Route 4
Center Rutland, VT 05736
(802) 773-2528

To the members of the Vermont House Reapportionment committee:

November 10, 2021

The Town of Rutland has held two meetings of our Board of Civil Authority (BCA) and would like to share our thoughts, and our vote with you as you prepare to make decisions on these weighty issues. We fully understand that your work is important and we approach this letter with a true sense of both history and democratic representation for our citizenry, and the true flavor of both of these meetings was bipartisan or non-partisan in every aspect.

To guide you in your decision-making, we would like to break our thoughts into two categories. The first category is one of geographic and cultural representation for our citizenry, and the second is that of political representation in a purely numerical game.

The Township of Rutland was established on September 7, 1761 by grant of Gov. Benning Wentworth, and following the several township redraftings of geographic boundaries creating West Rutland, Proctor, and Rutland City, still remains as the original Township of Rutland, now called Rutland Town. The present citizens of our town had nothing to do with those boundary decisions, but have, for generations, developed our town into a vibrant, thriving, self-sufficient community with its own educational system, governance body, police force, fire department and all other departments serving the constituency of Rutland Town. We have been a single member district for well over 50 years and both democrat and republican legislators have served our citizens well since our founding. Our cultural, political, educational, and economic interests are distinctly unique to our own community, and our single member representative has been able with great effort, to maintain contact within a very broad geographic expanse of community, with our acreage being three times the acreage of Rutland City and our geographical footprint completely surrounding that city. Purely in terms of representation, the thought of tripling the challenge of geography alone is daunting at best. It should also be noted that in the past decades of AOT planning for Bypass improvements to our region, the subject of fragmentation of our community played a very important part in the final resolution of road design. And the voters of our community expressed, by large margins, in many votes, their desire not to see our community fragmented by any further bypass construction.

The discussion the BCA had concerning political representation was both lively and informative. When the subject of gerrymandering came up (which of necessity, you would assume it would) there was quite a bi-partisan discussion of the historical nature of politics in general, but specifically about Vermont and the shifting winds which always produce change and the reality that no political party has any guarantee of any longevity. There was also some very interesting numerical data that poses the real question of just how accurate the actual numbers are that precipitate this change. Our listers have given us data that indicates an increase of 43 properties to our Grand List in the reporting period of 10 years. That would, statistically produce at least an increase of 86 to 120 residents in that period. We have also historically calculated through voting and other tallies a population of between 4,100 and 4,200 citizens in Rutland Town in recent years. There is also the possibility that we are underreported in census data,

which is obviously nothing we can control. We understand that. But the bottom line for us as a community that is proud to contribute to both the political and economic vitality of the region is that being only a small number of population short of the required goal, it would seem both fair and prudent to be proactive and add that number to our one member district rather than fragment us into three.

In conclusion, we know you have an onerous task before you and take it very seriously. We do not attempt to impose any decision as that is not our role. We were asked to give advice that would be helpful to the process and be fair to our citizens. It was our unanimous decision, by vote, to recommend that you leave us as a single member district and do nothing to change the status quo. In the event that you should choose an alternative, we recommend that you seek the numbers you need from another district or districts, and simply add them to Rutland Town to maintain us as a single member district. As a town, we would be more than happy to welcome those good people from whatever district you would choose to reallocate from.

Respectfully Submitted,

Howard D. Burgess
Marcia G. Chioppe
Donald J. Chioppe
Glen E. Miles
Murray C. May
Thomas Terenzini

James B. Hall
Christine K. Foulard
Frederick B. Nicholson
RW Bailey
Martin Wasserman

Rutland Town Board of Civil Authority

Memorandum

Date: November 9th, 2021

To: Rutland City BCA

From: BCA Apportionment Sub-Committee

RE: Recommendation to BCA on the House Re-Apportionment Proposal by the Legislative Apportionment Board

Members Present: Justice Donahue, Alderman Depoy, Alderman Neary, Alderman Talbott. Also Attending: Rutland City Representative Notte (District 5-4).

The BCA Apportionment Sub-Committee met on Tuesday, November 8th, 2021 at 6:30 PM to discuss their drafted apportionment proposal. The committee did not agree to the Legislative Apportionment Board Tentative Re-Apportionment Proposal.

Chair Donahue presented the detail of our modified district map based on the existing four wards. After review and discussion a motion was made by Alderman Talbott, seconded by Alderman Depoy to recommend this proposal* to the full BCA for consideration and approval; and to authorize the City Clerk to complete the required submission to the Legislative Apportionment Board subsequent to a vote of the BCA and by the deadline of November 15th.

Chair Donahue called for a vote which passed unanimously with 4 voting in favor and 0 voting opposed.

It is also noted that Rep. Notte expressed his support for the proposal. Chair Donahue also expressed the verbal support of Rutland City Rep. Fagan (District 5-1) as he was out of town at the time of the meeting and wanted to convey his concurrence as well.

*Proposal for the required on-line form submission consisting of:

- Revised District Map
- Revised District Description
- Rationale and Comments

Respectfully Submitted,



JP / Tom Donahue, Sub-Committee Chair

10. Rationale and comments:

The Rutland City Board of Civil Authority strongly recommended maintaining the existing four wards with single representation making just one change in district line between 5-1 and 5-4 to effectively move three contiguous blocks with a combined population of 114 people into 5-4 from 5-1.

Criterion 1: (Chapter II ss73 Vt. Constitution. This minor adjustment to district boundary lines meets the standard of substantial equality (within the desired 10% deviation measure for the ideal population of 4,287) and in fact closes the gap between the four districts to within 1.5% of each other.

This recommendation achieves equality of representation and provides a population of 3,893 people represented in Ward 5-4 and 3,994 people represented in Ward 1. The recommendation maintains as is - without change both Ward 5-2 with a population of 3,936 and Ward 5-3 with a population of 3,984.

Criterion 2 and 3: (Chapter II ss13 Vt. Constitution) The BCA recommended apportionment maintains geographic compactness and contiguity. This criterion aims to foster effective representation by ensuring that representatives are accessible to the people they represent.

Following the requirements that districts should be compact and contiguous, the Constitution also dictates that districts should follow existing boundaries of counties, towns, or other political subdivisions.

Criterion 4: (17 V.S.A. ss1903) The BCA recommended apportionment and maintenance of the existing four City ward structure achieves the criterion that legislative districts should be communities bound by shared values and interests which thus can be given effective voice in Montpelier.

Criterion 5: (17 V.S.A. ss1906B) "In making a proposal under this section, the boards of civil authority shall consider 1) preservation of existing political subdivision lines; (2) recognition of patterns of geography, social interaction, trade, political ties and common interest; (3) use of compact and contiguous territory; (4) incumbencies.

Under state statute, only Boards of Civil Authority are directed to weigh incumbency when proposing the sub-division of initial, multi member districts. While these are districts with single representation. The apportionment board proposal removes the incumbent from Ward 5-2 and places him in Ward 5-1. The BCA apportionment recommendation maintains the current structure of Ward 5-2 and does not displace the incumbent.

For all these established reasons cited above the Rutland City Board of Civil hereby recommends the Legislative Apportionment Board adopt our proposed (unanimously) approved re-apportionment plan as submitted.

encompassed within a boundary beginning at the point where the boundary line of Rutland City and Rutland Town intersects with Lincoln Avenue and North Main St.; then southerly along the eastern side of the centerline of North Main St. to Vernon St.; then westerly along the center line of Vernon St. to Lincoln Avenue; then Lincoln Avenue to the intersection of West Street; then easterly along the northern side of the centerline of West Street across North Main Street; then easterly along the northern side of the centerline of Terrill Street to the intersection of Lafayette Street; then southerly along the east side of the centerline of Lafayette Street to the intersection of Easterly Avenue; then easterly along the northern side of Easterly Avenue to the intersection of Piedmont Drive; then easterly along the northern side of the centerline of Piedmont Drive to the intersection of Piedmont Parkway; then easterly

along the northern side of the centerline of Piedmont Parkway to the intersection of Stratton Road; then southerly along the eastern side of the centerline of Stratton Road to the intersection of Killington Avenue; then easterly along the northern side of the centerline of Killington Avenue, including both sides of Grandview Terrace, to the boundary between Rutland City and Rutland Town; then northerly along the boundary line to its intersection with Gleason Road; then westerly along the southern side of the centerline of Gleason Road to Woodstock Avenue; then following the boundary line back to the point of beginning

.....

RUTLAND-5-2

That portion of the City of Rutland

encompassed within a boundary beginning at the southernmost point where the boundary line of Rutland City and Rutland Town intersects with South Main Street; then northerly along the eastern side of the cen-

terline of South Main Street to the intersection of Strongs Avenue; then northwesterly along the eastern side of the centerline of Strongs Avenue to the intersection of Prospect Street; then northerly along the eastern side of the centerline of Prospect Street to the intersection of Washington Street; then easterly along the southern side of the centerline of Washington Street to the intersection of Court Street; then northerly along the eastern side of the centerline of Court Street to the intersection of West Street; then easterly along the southern side of the centerline of West Street to the intersection of South Main Street; then east across South Main Street along the southern side of the centerline of Terrill Street to the intersection of Lafayette Street; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of Lafayette Street to the intersection of Easterly Avenue; then easterly along the southern side of the centerline of Easterly Ave-

nue to the intersection of Piedmont Drive; then easterly along the southern side of the centerline of Piedmont Drive to the intersection of Piedmont Parkway; then easterly along the southern side of the centerline of Piedmont Parkway to the intersection of Stratton Road; then southerly along the western side of the centerline of Stratton Road to the intersection of Killington Avenue; then easterly along the southern side of the centerline of Killington Avenue to the boundary of Rutland City and Rutland Town; then southerly along the city line to the intersection of the city line and South Main Street to the point of beginning

.....

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RUTLAND-5-3

That portion of the City of Rutland

encompassed within a boundary beginning at the point where the boundary line of Rutland City and Rutland Town intersects with South Main Street; then northerly along the western side of the centerline of South

Main Street to the intersection of
Strongs Avenue; then northwesterly
along the western side of the center-



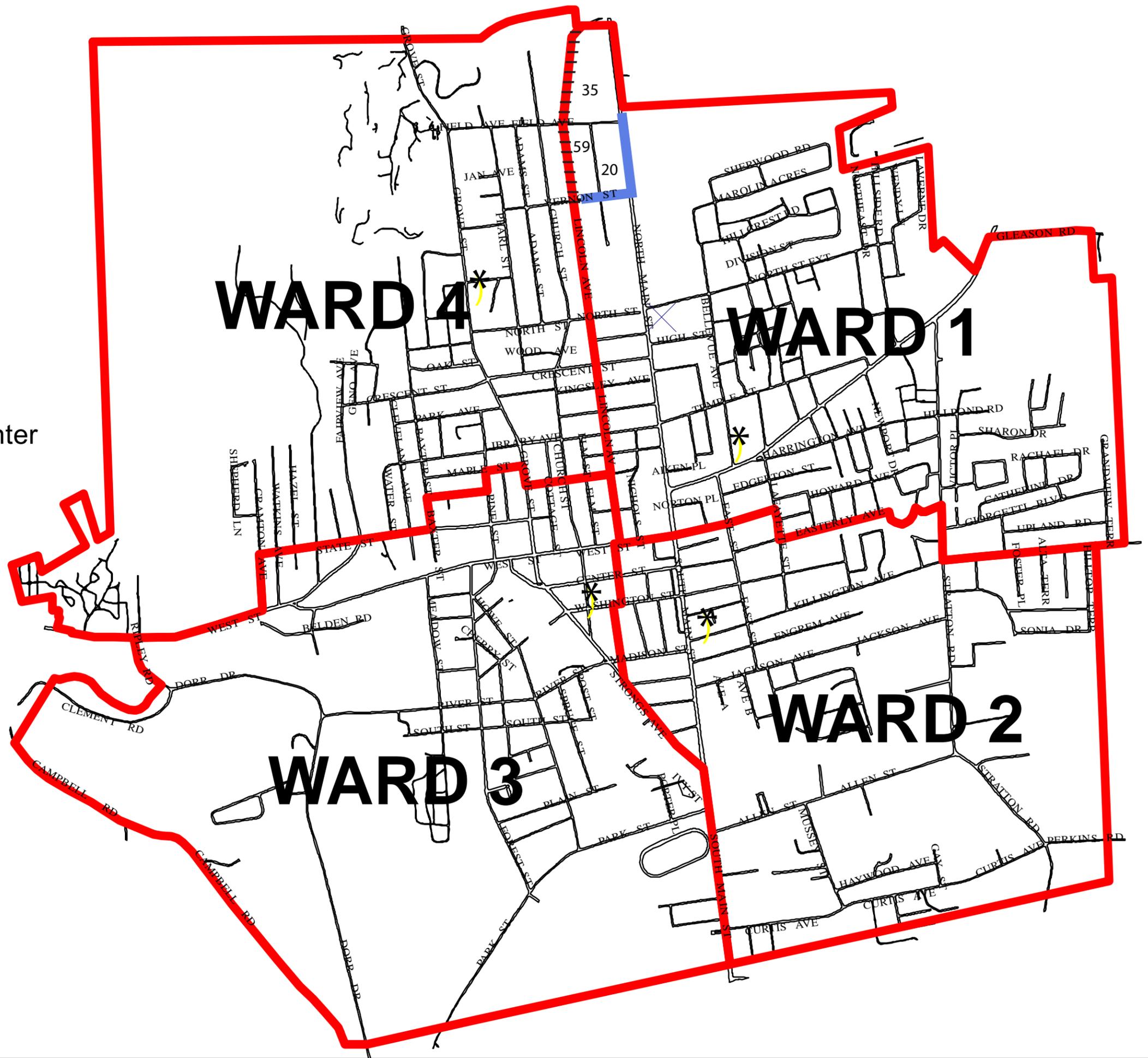
*** Polling Places**

- Ward 1 Godnick Senior Citizen Center
- Ward 2 Christ the King School
- Ward 3 American Legion
- Ward 4 Calvary Bible Church

 New Ward Line

 Ward Line Change

City of Rutland Ward Map





southburlington

CITY CLERK

November 12, 2021

Thomas Little, Chair
Legislative Apportionment Board

Dear Chair Little:

The South Burlington Board of Civil Authority thanks you for the effort and speed with which you've turned out a comprehensive proposal for redistricting. We looked closely at your 6-district plan for South Burlington, but we are unanimous in being strongly opposed to this. We offer two possible alternatives to your proposal for further work on the matter.

The LAB proposal does meet a compact, contiguous territory, but we find that it doesn't preserve existing political subdivisions nor does it recognize the extremely different interests of Essex and South Burlington. There is no direct path, road or connection between the two districts as drawn – the common border is an impassable Winooski River. Furthermore, those residents in South Burlington proposed for District 10-2 have a unique issue with Burlington International Airport that is not shared with Essex but is an ongoing part of South Burlington concerns. Sharing a district with Williston presents equal challenges where our portion of District 12-5 is residential and Williston's section is heavily commercial.

In addition, the burden of a 6-member district for South Burlington requires a 33% increase in staffing and equipment for elections. It also requires the siting of two new polling locations with additional qualified election workers. Nine thousand residents (~45%) of South Burlington would change their polling locations and the resulting confusion would reverberate over the next 4 years.

Our alternative envisions a 5-district plan for South Burlington. The 5-districts should be fully within South Burlington. This proposal meets all three of the criteria set by statute: common interests, common political subdivisions and contiguous, compact territory. With South Burlington's population at 20,292, it is apparent that a per district head count would average 4058 in a 5-district plan. With an increase of 225 residents since April 2020, South Burlington achieves a 5-district average of 4103 which is within the range of acceptable deviation for districts. (see the attached **Schedule A** – Excel Spreadsheet – of existing new occupied addresses up to October 2021 since April 2020 to support our increased population).

We have broken future growth into two categories. First, there are current developments under construction. These will bring in an additional 783 residents. Second, there are approved developments (final plat approval) which should bring in an additional 759 residents. (see **Schedule B** – Excel spreadsheet & map -- where both categories are shown).

So, our population of 20,292 in April 2020, now stands at 20,518 in October 2021. It continues to rise due to developments under construction to 21,301. Accounting for developments with final plat approval, it is estimated that South Burlington's population will be 22,060 based on these units already in the pipeline. This final number for South Burlington population exceeds the ideal sized district of 21,435 for a 5-district South Burlington plan.

South Burlington's growth over this last decade supports consideration for giving South Burlington the representation it has and needs. Two of South Burlington's existing districts have finished first and second in percentage growth over the past 10 years. It would be prudent to bake in room for continuing expected growth in South Burlington to avoid under-representation. We ask for the deference based on our history and current experience. South Burlington respectfully asks that you consider our unique needs in apportioning us fair representation.

Two proposed maps and tables are included for your consideration as well as a comparison map for the current districts. (**Schedule C**).

We are requesting to retain the existing numbering suffixes that have been used for the past 10 years for our districts. For example, the proposed 12-1 district would be called 12-4 (was 7-4), 12 -2 district would be called 12-1 (was 7-1), 12-3 district would remain the same, 12-4 district would be called 12-2 (was 7-2) and 12-5 is a new district number for the City. This would help minimize the disruption to folks regarding their polling locations. We stand ready to assist and adjust these districts within the guidelines.

We hope that you can prepare a 5-member district for South Burlington. We stand ready to suggest how to refine the lines within South Burlington to maximize the representation of each district.

Thank you,

Chris Shaw

Chair, South Burlington Board of Civil Authority

Schedule A

Newly occupied builds from April 2020 through October 2021
to bring census data up to date

<u>Property Address</u>	<u># of units</u>	<u>ZIP #</u>	<u>Date Issued</u>	<u>District</u>
57 Hinesburg Road	5	20-139	6/9/2020 3 3 bedrooms a	1
110 Sadie Lane	1	19-299	10/9/2019	4
114-118 Churchill Street	2	21-068	3/26/2021	4
120 Midland Avenue	1	20-307	10/13/2020	4
130 Churchill/313 North Jeff	2	20-357	11/10/2020	4
132 Midland Avenue	1	20-396	12/31/2020	4
142 Midland Avenue	1	20-386	1/21/2021	4
165 Windswept Lane	1	20-168	6/30/2020	4
18 Crispin Lane	1	19-328	11/4/2019	4
19 Fall Street	1	20-335	10/23/2020	4
21 Chipman Street	1	20-291	9/25/2020	4
21 Johnson Way	1	19-349	11/27/2019	4
220 Stafford Street	12	20-066	4/2/2020 2 bedroom unit	4
238-242 Preserve Road	2	21-067	3/26/2021	4
247-251 Preserve Road	2	20-084	5/7/2020	4
253-265 North Jefferson Road	2	20-009	1/13/2020	4
259 Stafford Street	12	20-059	3/13/2020 2 bedroom unit	4
269 Midland Avenue	2	21-011	1/21/2021	4
269-375 North Jefferson Road	2	20-008	1/13/2020	4
27 Fall Street	1	19-345	11/25/2019	4
279 Midland Avenue	1	20-308	10/13/2020	4
287 Midland Avenue	1	20-250	8/28/2020	4
293 Rye Circle	1	20-340	10/27/2020	4
30 Medalist Drive	1	21-066	3/31/2021	4
301 Midland Avenue	1	21-020	2/5/2021	4
31 Fall Street	1	19-344	11/25/2019	4
320 Midland Ave	1	21-058	3/26/2021	4
327 Midland Avenue	1	20-230	8/19/2020	4
362 North Jefferson Road	1	19-325	10/29/2021	4
39 Johnson Way	1	19-333	11/8/2019	4
42 Medalist Drive	1	20-389	12/31/2020	4
49 Medalist Drive	1	20-390	12/31/2020	4
70 Stafford Street	1	20-346	11/5/2020	4
73 Chipman Street	1	20-387	12/22/2020	4
8 Medalist Drive	1	20-388	12/31/2020	4
86 Medalist Drive	1	20-371	12/2/2020	4
106 Two Brothers Drive	1	20-352	12/31/2020	5
107 Two Brothers Drive	1	20-395	12/31/2020	5
116 Two Brothers Drive	1	21-074	3/30/2021	5
117 Two Brothers Drive	1	21-001	1/4/2021	5
126 Two Brothers Drive	1	21-073	3/30/2021	5
129 Two Brothers Drive	1	21-022	2/24/2021	5

13 Split Rock Court	1	20-377	12/4/2020	5
15 Ledge Way	1	21-021	2/23/2021	5
187 Highland Terrace	1	20-365	11/24/2020	5
187 Highland Terrace	1	21-059	3/17/2021	5
23 Ledge Way	1	20-379	12/4/2020	5
28 Split Rock Court	1	20-378	12/4/2020	5
286-290 O'Brien Farm Road	2	19-315	10/21/2021	5
300-304 O'Brien Farm Road	2	16-363	12/19/2019	5
301-307 O'Brien Farm Road	2	20-062	3/20/2020	5
31 Ledge Way	1	20-278	9/18/2020	5
312-316 O'Brien Farm Road	2	20-319	10/16/2020	5
315-321 O'Brien Farm Road	2	20-306	10/9/2020	5
326-330 O'Brien Farm Road	2	20-353	12/31/2020	5
329-330 O'Brien Farm Road	2	20-370	12/2/2020	5
38 Split Rock Court	1	20-011	1/13/2020	5
39 Ledge Way	1	20-012	1/13/2020	5
48 Split Rock Court	1	19-327	11/4/2019	5
53 Ledge Way	1	19-312	10/21/2021	5
61 Split Rock Court	1	20-277	9/18/2020	5
64 Ledge Way	1	19-329	11/4/2019	5
86 Two Brothers	1	19-314	10/21/2021	5
89 Two Brothers Drive	1	20-092	5/14/2020	5
96 Two Brothers Drive	1	20-318	10/16/2020	5
99 Two Brothers Drive	1	20-093	5/14/2020	5

Total # of units	105
average 2.15 per unit	226**

see Schedule B for deviation from ideal sized district

Schedule B

South Burlington's population growth over the next 10 years

	Population
per 2020 census	20,292
new residents from April 1, 2020 to October 31, 2021	<u>226</u>
Subtotal	20,518
New developments already being built* (blue on development map behind schedule C)	<u>783</u>
subtotal	21,301
New developments already with plat approval* (pink on development map behind schedule C)	<u>759</u>
subtotal	22,060
Ideal District size x 5 districts	21,435
Over the ideal sized district	625
There are additional permits in the process or already received for approval* (yellow or orange on development map behind schedule C)	1,533 additional potential residents

* = calculated using number of units x 2.10 people per unit (estimated based on prior history)

Schedule C

Order of Contents

Current map of representative districts

South Burlington's Development Map

Redrawing of District Lines

Option 1

Map boundaries

Option 1 calculations throughout all growth cycles

Write-up of boundary lines

Option 2

Map boundaries

Option 2 calculations throughout all growth cycles

Voter District Map

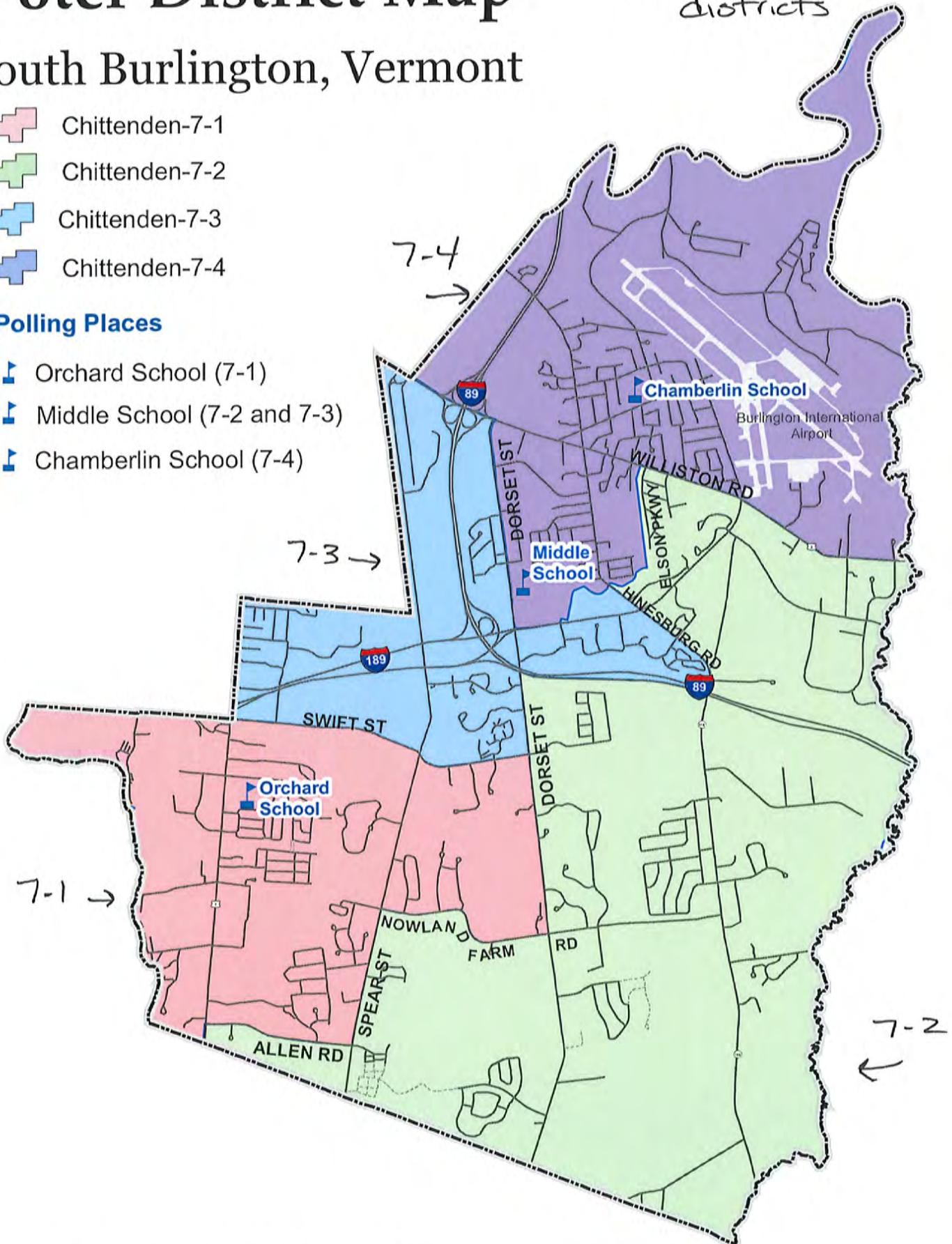
Current +
districts

South Burlington, Vermont

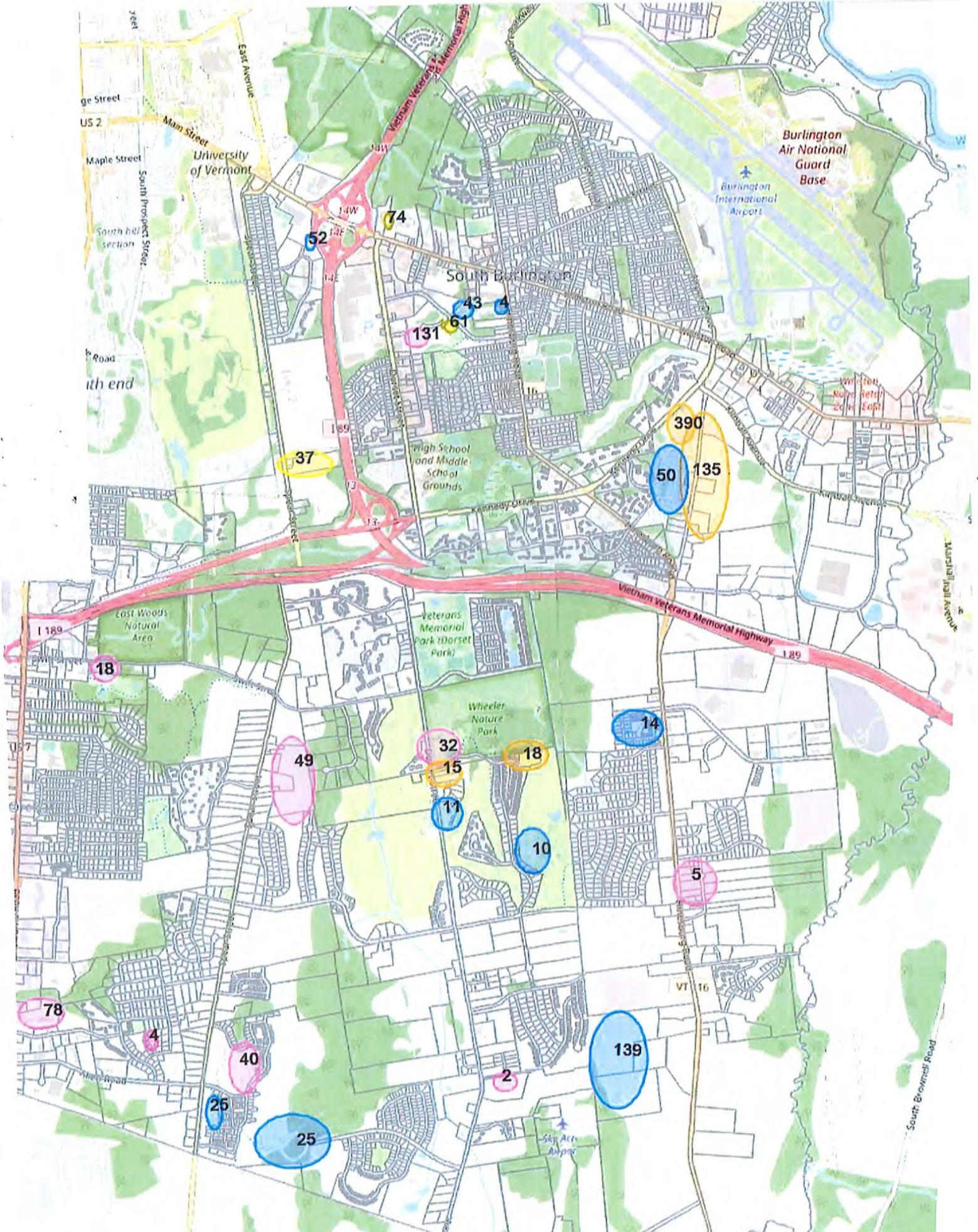
-  Chittenden-7-1
-  Chittenden-7-2
-  Chittenden-7-3
-  Chittenden-7-4

Polling Places

-  Orchard School (7-1)
-  Middle School (7-2 and 7-3)
-  Chamberlin School (7-4)



S. Burlington Development Map



Option 1 - drawing new district boundary lines with levels of growth

Census blocks with new district boundaries				
	# per censu	ideal district #	deviation number	deviation percentage
12-1	4,296	4,287	9	0.21%
12-2	4,264	4,287	-23	-0.54%
12-3	4,533	4,287	246	5.74%
12-4	3,598	4,287	-689	-16.07%
12-5	3,601	4,287	-686	-16.00%
Totals	20,292	21,435	-1,143	-5.33%

plus

New Growth since Census 4/1/20-8/31/2021						
	prior population	growth	revised population	ideal district #	deviation number	deviation percentage
12-1	4,296	9	4,305	4,287	18	0.41%
12-2	4,258	0	4,264	4,287	-23	-0.54%
12-3	4,299	0	4,533	4,287	246	5.74%
12-4	3,727	138	3,736	4,287	-551	-12.86%
12-5	3,972	80	3,681	4,287	-606	-14.15%
Totals	20,552	226	20,518	21,435	-917	-4.28%

plus developments already under way (BLUE on development map)						
	prior number	Permitted growth	revised population	ideal district #	deviation number	deviation percentage
12-1	4,305	99	4,403	4,287	116	2.71%
12-2	4,264	0	4,264	4,287	-23	-0.54%
12-3	4,533	109	4,642	4,287	355	8.29%
12-4	3,736	470	4,206	4,287	-81	-1.89%
12-5	3,681	105	3,786	4,287	-501	-11.70%
Totals	20,518	783	21,301	21,435	-134	-0.62%

plus developments with final plat approval from City (PINK on development map)						
	prior number	Permitted growth	revised population	ideal district #	deviation number	deviation percentage
12-1	4,403	0	4,403	4,287	116	2.71%
12-2	4,264	215	4,479	4,287	192	4.48%
12-3	4,642	0	4,642	4,287	355	8.29%
12-4	4,206	258	4,464	4,287	177	4.14%
12-5	3,786	286	4,071	4,287	-216	-5.03%
Totals	21,301	759	22,060	21,435	625	2.92%

Boundary lines description

Option 1

Using district numbers supplied by LAB

12-1 That portion of the City of South Burlington encompassed within a boundary beginning at the northwestern-most point where the boundary line of South Burlington and the city of Burlington meet on Williston Rd/East Terrace; the northern section from the center line of Williston Rd to; the southern side center of Williston Rd beginning with the east side center line of Dorset St; east on the north of the center line on Garden Street to Hinesburg Rd; south down Hinesburg Rd; turning northeast at Winding Brook; continuing north through the ravine up to the southern to the northern side of Williston Rd; Contains all property located on the northern side of Williston Rd within South Burlington boundaries back to the point of beginning.

12-2 That portion of the city of South Burlington encompassed within a boundary beginning at the point where the boundary of South Burlington and the city of Burlington intersects with the shore of Lake Champlain; then southerly along the shore of Lake Champlain, including all of the lake belonging to South Burlington, to the boundary of the town of Shelburne; then going north on the easterly side of Shelburne Rd to the southern side of Harbor View Rd; then northerly on Bay Crest Drive following the easterly turn and continuing on Bay Crest Drive; going east on the southern side of Pheasant Way; then easterly on the northern side of Nowland Farm Rd: until it connects with Spear St; going north on the western side of the centerline of Dorset St; the south side of Indian Creek westerly to Spear Street; proceed south on the eastern side of Spar St to the intersection of Swift St: follow westerly south of the center line of Swift Street back to the point of beginning

12-3 That portion of the city of South Burlington encompassed within a boundary beginning at the northwestern-most point where the boundary line of South Burlington and the city of Burlington No. 93 Page 48 of 52 VT LEG 280510.1 intersects with Williston Road; then southerly and easterly along the Burlington city line to the intersection with Ridgewood Estates; then north easterly up to the south side of Indian Creek to Dorset Street; then northerly along the western side of the centerline of Dorset Street to the intersection with Kennedy Drive; proceed easterly north from the center line of Kennedy Dr; turning north just before Manor Woods (100 Kennedy Dr) until you reach Hinesburg Rd; proceed north on the western side of the center line of Hinesburg Rd; at the southern section of Market St proceed east from the center line until you reach Dorset St; proceed north on the western side of Dorset St; proceed west on the southern side of Williston Rd to the boundary of South Burlington and Burlington; then southerly down the west side of Spear following the Burlington South Burlington boundaries back to the point of beginning.

12-4 All other portions of South Burlington not described here.

12-5 That portion of South Burlington encompassed within a boundary beginning at the junction of Williston and South Burlington at Williston Rd; on the Southern side of the center line of Williston Rd going westerly; proceed southerly following the western side of the ravine behind Bay Berry Lane; to the beginning of Winding Brook; crossing Hinesburg Rd to include Manor Woods; proceed westerly on the southern side of the center line of Kennedy Dr to the junction of Dorset St; proceed southerly on the eastern side of Dorset St to Swift St; proceed westerly on Swift St; follow westerly the Wheeler Nature Park over to and including Rye Circle; proceed south on the western side of Hinesburg Rd down to the Shelburne Town line and proceed northerly up to the point of the beginning following the Williston and South Burlington boundaries.

Option 2 - drawing new district boundary lines with levels of growth

Census blocks with new district boundaries				
	# per cens	ideal district #	deviation number	deviation percentage
12-1	4,296	4,287	9	0.21%
12-2	4,264	4,287	-23	-0.54%
12-3	4,533	4,287	246	5.74%
12-4	3,598	4,287	-689	-16.07%
12-5	3,601	4,287	-686	-16.00%
Totals	20,292	21,435	-1,143	-5.33%

plus

New Growth since Census 4/1/20-8/31/2021						
	prior population	growth	revised population	ideal district #	deviation number	deviation percentage
12-1	4,296	9	4,305	4,287	18	0.41%
12-2	4,258	0	4,264	4,287	-23	-0.54%
12-3	4,299	0	4,533	4,287	246	5.74%
12-4	3,727	140	3,738	4,287	-549	-12.81%
12-5	3,972	77	3,678	4,287	-609	-14.21%
Totals	20,552	226	20,518	21,435	-917	-4.28%

plus developments already under way (BLUE on development map)						
	prior number	Permitted growth	revised population	ideal district #	deviation number	deviation percentage
12-1	4,305	99	4,403	4,287	116	2.71%
12-2	4,264	0	4,264	4,287	-23	-0.54%
12-3	4,533	109	4,642	4,287	355	8.29%
12-4	3,738	470	4,208	4,287	-79	-1.83%
12-5	3,678	105	3,783	4,287	-504	-11.76%
Totals	20,518	783	21,301	21,435	-134	-0.63%

plus developments with final plat approval from City (PINK on development map)						
	prior number	Permitted growth	revised population	ideal district #	deviation number	deviation percentage
12-1	4,403	0	4,403	4,287	116	2.71%
12-2	4,264	215	4,479	4,287	192	4.48%
12-3	4,642	0	4,642	4,287	355	8.29%
12-4	4,208	258	4,467	4,287	180	4.19%
12-5	3,783	286	4,069	4,287	-218	-5.09%
Totals	21,301	759	22,060	21,435	625	2.91%

p. 5

Town of St. Johnsbury, VT, Board of Civil Authority comments on redistricting:

Please add this email to the list opposing the proposed reapportionment concept being proposed by our state government.

I oppose this concept for the following reasons:

It would at least double the cost for primary and general elections in the Town of St. Johnsbury. It would require added space and limit options available for that space to hold primary and general elections.

It would double the manpower needed to facilitate these elections.

It would have an adverse effect on effective representation by forcing two largely different groups of citizens to be represented by a single representative (rural Lyndon and mainly urban St. Johnsbury) simply to achieve numerically equal representation.

More equitable solutions to achieve the desired equality in representation might be:

To avoid splitting towns to simply achieve numerical equality or to allow more flexibility (a greater percentage for deviation) from the desired number of voters per representative.

In these small rural areas it is very difficult to get people to run for public office and this may make it more difficult.

I would urge the committee to consider the cost of this proposal as costs for a number of towns will double.

When you split a town based on a geographical boundary such as Rte. 5 it will be very confusing for the states aging population. For example the proposed line splits St. Johnsbury so that if you live on one side of Rte. 5 you are in CAL 3 and vote in that district and are represented by a representative, if you live on the other side of Rte. 5 you are in CAL 6 and vote and are represented by someone else.

Has the committee considered the effect on early voting and how it will be handled?

As a member of the St. Johnsbury Board of Civil Authority, I appreciate the effort of the Legislative Apportionment Board working to create a new redistricting based on the information from the most recent census. Creating single-member districts makes sense in some ways, as each voter would be represented by just one person in the House of Representatives. However for towns like St. Johnsbury following the proposed redistricting, would go from being a two-member district to two single-member districts, there are other things to consider. Part of one of the proposed districts in St. Johnsbury would include a portion of Lyndonville which would complicate elections and possibly confuse voters in both towns. Lyndonville and St. Johnsbury are not even part of the same school district, so there is little that ties these communities together. It would make more sense to have the districts conform to town lines. Having a two-district town also creates more work (double for some elections) for the town employees and volunteers who run the elections, as two separate elections would need to be conducted. This is at

a time when town budgets are tight, town employees are stretched thin and volunteers are hard to come by. I understand why the single-member districts are being proposed, but believe there is more to consider when establishing the districts that would cut towns up that have not had more than one district before, and then to also place portions of two separate towns together to create one district.

November 10, 2021

Town of Starksboro
2849 VT Route 116
Starksboro VT 05487

The Starksboro Board of Civil Authority (hereinafter, BCA) met on November 4, 2021, at the Starksboro Town Clerk's office to consider the reapportionment scheme recommended by the Vermont Legislative Apportionment Board.

After considerable discussion by the BCA, a formal vote was held, wherein the committee's proposal was unanimously rejected. A summary of the main considerations which preceded the vote follows below.

1. The BCA does not feel that the Vermont Legislative Apportionment Board desire to have 150 single seat districts should ride roughshod over the other considerations state laws suggest, these include the occasional use of multi seat districts to meet other constraints, such as adherence to one person, one vote concerns, and the principle of constructing districts according to the general interests and concerns of the voters.
2. We believe that the occasional use of multi seat districts will give the redistricting committee significantly better flexibility in accomplishing its goals as set out in state law. The detailed proposal sent out by the committee demonstrates thoroughly that the perceived need to have 150 single seat districts stretches every other consideration nearly to the breaking point.
3. While Starksboro is not (yet) adversely impacted by this, what with our currently proposed new district containing all of Starksboro, any rejiggering of nearby boundaries due to complaints by other towns, could very well place us in a similar situation, and perhaps leave us very little time to make our concerns felt. At some point, the merry go round stops, and we understand the need to have absolute deadlines, since we have an election coming up in about one year.
4. There is another aspect of this proposal which we understand is adversely impacting many towns other than just us. Based on incumbents in many multi seat districts, including ours, living in various different parts of their district, existing representatives will often be forced to run against each other. For example, our current two seat district which encompasses Bristol, Starksboro, Lincoln and Monkton has one member from Starksboro and one from Lincoln. The proposed redistricting would force those two to run against each other if both wanted to remain in the Legislature. A recent Vermont Digger article goes into great detail concerning similar situations all over the greater Burlington area. While this can also occur from time to time in redistricting using multi-seat districts, it should do so less frequently.

In sum, we understand that no system dealing with this issue will be perfect, but our BCA believes that blind insistence on only single seat districts does not have sufficient merit to override these other concerns. We also understand that a consideration in all of this should include, to the extent reasonably possible, the perceived value of consistency. The current proposal turns that concept on its head.

Therefore, the Town of Starksboro's BCA is unanimously opposed to the current recommendation. We hope the committee will carefully consider these observations, as well as those from other towns and cities, and return to the current system of utilizing multi seat districts where appropriate, keeping like groups together, and still adhering to the constitutional requirement that one person, one vote is largely adhered to.

Sincerely,

Starksboro BCA

Norman Cota, Ben Campbell, John Jefferies, Nancy Boss, Eric Cota, Margaret Casey, Amy McCormick

Vermont Legislative Apportionment Board
House District Map

District	Tentative House District Map			Suggested House District Map		
	Town	Population	County	Town	Population	County
BENRUT-2	Rupert	698	Bennington	Rupert	698	Bennington
	Middletown Springs	794	Rutland	Middletown Springs	794	Rutland
	Pawlet	1,424	Rutland	Pawlet	1,424	Rutland
	Tinmouth	553	Rutland	Tinmouth	0	Rutland
	Wells (split)	500	Rutland	Wells	0	Rutland
				?	1,300	Bennington
	Total	3,969		Total	4,216	
RUT-1	Mount Holly	1,385	Rutland	Mount Holly	0	Rutland
	Shrewsbury	1,096	Rutland	Shrewsbury	1,096	Rutland
	Wallingford	2,129	Rutland	Wallingford	2,129	Rutland
				Tinmouth	553	Rutland
				Ira	368	Rutland
	Total	4,610	Total	4,146		
RUT-3	Clarendon	2,412		Clarendon	2,412	Rutland
	West Rutland	2,214		West Rutland	2,214	Rutland
		4,626			4,626	
RUT-4	Ira	368	Rutland	Ira		Rutland
	Poultney	3,020	Rutland	Poultney	3,020	Rutland
	Wells (split)	714	Rutland	Wells (whole)	1,214	Rutland
		4,102			4,234	

BCA Redistricting Reporting Questions

District(s) reviewed that the BCA recommends changing:

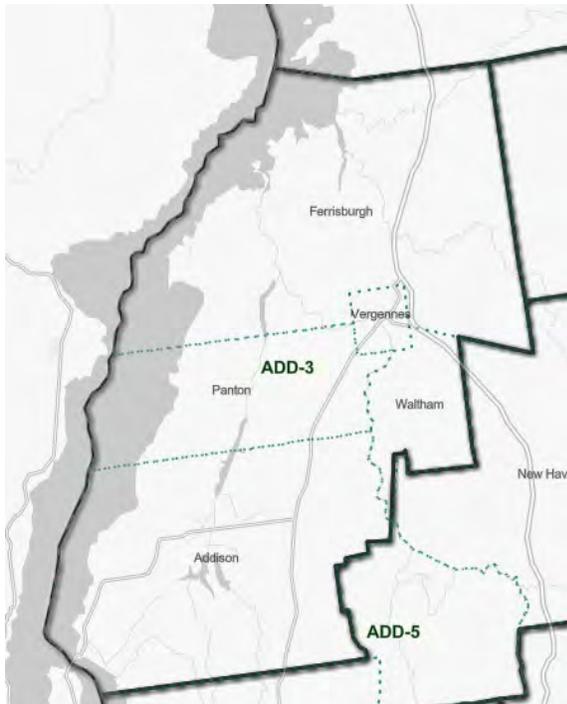
The Waltham BCA met on Monday, November 1, 2021, to review the new ADDISON-5 redistricting proposal. Base on the concerns raised during the discussion, the Waltham BCA has decided to reject the ADDISON- 5 proposal.

District(s) reviewed that the BCA recommends keeping as proposed:

The Waltham BCA does not recommend keeping any of the proposed changes.

Description of District(s) recommended to be changed:

The Waltham BCA recommends that the existing ADDISON-3 District (see map below) remain unchanged. The existing ADDISON-3 District includes the municipalities of Vergennes, Ferrisburgh, Panton, Waltham, and Addison in their entirety. The Waltham BCA also recommends that ADDISON-3 remain a two-member representative district.



Rationale and comments:

Please give in detail your rationale for the change(s) that the BCA made as well as rationale for leaving the district(s) as drawn by the Legislative Apportionment Board.

Under 17 V.S.A § 1903, when the Legislative Apportionment Board undertakes the task of reapportioning voting districts, it needs to follow certain standards and policies:

The representative and senatorial districts shall be formed consistent with the following policies insofar as practicable:

1. preservation of existing political subdivision lines;
2. recognition and maintenance of patterns of geography, social interaction, trade, political ties, and common interests;
3. use of compact and contiguous territory.

It is the opinion of the Waltham BCA that the proposed ADDISON-5 District does not follow the standards and policies listed above:

1. The current ADDISON-3 District preserves the political subdivisions of the five municipalities involved. The proposed ADDISON-5 District separates Waltham from those existing political subdivision lines. The Waltham BCA does not understand the basis or reason for this separation.

2. The current ADDISON-3 District recognizes that the five-town community has been politically, socially, and geographically intertwined since the late 1700s. The residents of Waltham utilize Vergennes as a center for work, shopping, dining, and socializing, directly aligning with the “patterns of geography, social interaction, trade, political ties, and common interests”. Even Waltham’s Zip Code is shared with Vergennes. Most importantly is the fact that the five towns that make up the current ADDISON-3 District also comprise the Addison Northwest School District. Many of the decisions we make as a representative district are inherently related to the decisions we make as a school district. The proposed change would severely fracture that relationship.

3. The proposed district is counter to the standards of a compact and contiguous territory. The proposed ADDISON-5 District creates a sprawling territory stretching from Monkton to New Haven to Waltham.

4. The Waltham BCA notes that the proposed district is reminiscent of some of the more questionably gerrymandered voting districts seen nationwide.

5. Although the idea of smaller districts consisting of a single representative may seem to provide equity statewide, the proposed ADDISON-5 District separates Waltham from our immediate community and further divides the surrounding communities.

In summary, The Waltham BCA is opposed to the creation of an ADDISON-5 District. We have discussed the proposed district with the BCAs of our current five-town community and agree that the proposed elimination of the ADDISON-3 District is harmful to our communities and violates statutory requirements regarding reapportionment criteria.

The Waltham BCA unanimously and strongly recommends that our five-town, two-member legislative district remains intact.

TOWN OF WESTFORD

1713 Vermont Route 128 • Westford, Vermont 05494
Town Office: (802)878-4587 • Fax: (802)879-6503
www.westfordvt.us

November 10, 2021

Tom Little, Special Master
Vermont Legislative Apportionment Board
c/o VSAC
P.O. Box 2000
Winooski, VT 05404

Dear Members of the Reapportionment Committee,

The Westford Board of Civil Authority (BCA) met on October 28, 2021 to discuss the proposed Representative District changes. We would like to express our appreciation for the efforts the Committee has put forth in this daunting task.

The BCA approved the proposed change to the Representative District (CHI-6), which removes a portion of Essex and adds a portion of Milton. However, the BCA would like to note that they would much prefer Westford to be grouped with Essex because 1) Westford and Essex share a school District, and 2) while Milton is in Chittenden County, there is a disconnect between the two communities. The BCA feels that the northern part of Essex is much more aligned with Westford.

With regard to the Senate District, Westford feels that the current structure needs to be addressed for fair representation. Due to the size of Westford, it is difficult for our town to be fairly represented being in the same district with much larger municipalities such as Burlington, South Burlington, and Shelburne. Our rural character is not in line with the larger communities and therefore our interests are much different. We feel our community would be better served if it was included with Essex, Jericho, Underhill, Bolton, Richmond, and Huntington. Furthermore, it is our understanding that you have received a similar letter from Jericho proposing the same.

Thank you again, for all your efforts and for your consideration of the recommendations included in this letter.

Best,



Nanette Rogers
Town Clerk

November 10, 2021

To the Legislative Apportionment Board

From the Weston Vermont Board of Civil Authority

Re: District BEN-RUT

The Weston Board of Civil Authority has met and considered the proposed BEN-RUT House District, which would combine Weston with Mount Tabor, Dorset and Danby. The Board strongly disagrees with the proposal.

We have been guided by the provision in the Vermont Constitution which provides: “In establishing representative districts, which shall afford equality of representation, the General Assembly shall seek to maintain geographical compactness and contiguity...” – *Chapter II, §13, Vt. Constitution*

There is further guidance from the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration; “Apart from conforming to the mathematical standard of equal representation, districts also should be compact and contiguous. The towns comprising a district should share borders and otherwise be geographically proximate to one another”.

The proposed BEN-RUT District does not conform to these criteria.

The Town of Weston and the Towns of Mount Tabor and Danby may appear to “share borders and be geographically proximate to one another” on a map, but the reality is that there is no road connection between Weston and Mount Tabor and thus no way to go through Mount Tabor to get to Danby.

The road connection between Mount Tabor and Danby is described on the Green Mountain National Forest website as **“Danby-Mount Tabor Road: This road is also known as Forest Road 10 and it travels east from Danby / Mt. Tabor over the Green Mountains to the Peru / Londonderry area. Along this road, built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930’s, there are several vistas and a picnic area, the Big Branch Day Use Area. Plenty of wildlife viewing opportunities can be found traveling along this forested road. (Closed in winter).**

From the website <http://distancescalculator.com> › Vermont › Weston

“The straight distance between Weston, VT and Danby, VT is 13.35 mi, but the driving distance is 31.94 mi. It takes 1 hour 3 mins to go from Weston, Vermont to Danby.”

The proposed BEN-RUT District of Weston, Mount Tabor, Danby and Dorset is neither compact or contiguous.

The Weston Board of Civil Authority proposes a different configuration of the House District. We recommend combining the towns of Weston, Londonderry, Winhall, Landgrove and Peru as shown on this table.

LAB recommendation		Weston BCA recommendation	
Town	Population	Town	Population
WESTON	623	WESTON	623
MOUNT TABOR	210	LONDONDERRY	1919
DORSET	2123	LANDGROVE	177
DANBY	1284	PERU	531
TOTAL	4240	WINHALL	1182
		TOTAL	4432

Rationale for the BCA recommended House District:

The five towns that make up the recommended House District are contiguous, geographically compact, afford equality of representation and share common services, schools, health care and public services.

- Winhall shares a common border with Londonderry and along with Londonderry has been a part of the current Windham-Bennington-Windsor District along with Weston since the 2000 Census.
- Education -- Weston, Londonderry, Landgrove and Peru are together served by the Flood Brook Union School. (Winhall's private Mountain School was founded in 1998.)
- Health care – Primary care for the five towns that comprise the recommended district is centered on the Mountain Valley Health Center in Londonderry.
- Recycling and transfer – Weston, Londonderry, Peru and Landgrove are together served by the Recycling and Transfer Station in Londonderry.

As the table shows, the BCA Recommended District adds 192 more individuals to the district population than the LAB recommendation, bringing the population to 4,432. This is 4.47% above the idealized sized district of 4,287 but well within the standard of substantial equality. As noted in the Criteria section of the State Archives and Records website, districts that “have an overall deviation of 10% or less are considered to have met the standard of substantial equality”.

For all of these reasons, the Weston Board of Civil Authority respectfully urges the Legislative Apportionment Board to adopt the Weston BCA Recommended House District.

Wayne Granquist BCA Chair

Windsor Board of Civil Authority

Windsor, VT 05089

Report to the Legislative Apportionment Board

Re: The 2021 Proposed Redistricting Map:

The Windsor Board of Civil Authority, BCA, convened a hybrid (in person and video) duly warned public hearing Monday, Nov. 08, 5 PM, at the Windsor Welcome Center, 3 Railroad Ave., Windsor, VT.

At that meeting a motion was offered and seconded that:

1. The BCA **does not** like the proposed map (WSR-9, Windsor plus a southern portion of West Windsor).
2. The BCA **does like** the idea of single Representative districts.
3. The BCA would encourage the creation of Windsor and the entirety of West Windsor as a single Representative district.
4. Such a district instead of being more that 5% below the desired population would result in a district slightly above the desired population.
5. The BCA recognizes that Windsor plus West Windsor has been a single Representative district in the past.
6. Additionally Windsor and West Windsor have strong community ties as well as sharing municipal services including, police, fire, emergency response and a shared wastewater disposal system.
7. Lastly, and importantly, Windsor and West Windsor formed the Mt. Ascutney School District #86. To that end West Windsor relinquished school choice to combine with Windsor. Hartland actively eschewed joining Windsor and West Windsor because that would have required losing school choice. To add insult to injury the proposed WSR-9 places the Albert Bridge School, that relinquished school choice and now part of the Mt. Ascutney School District (Windsor & West Windsor) into the WSR-8 Representative District with Hartland that has retained school choice.

That motion passed unanimously.



Respectfully submitted,

Paul S. Belaski

Windsor Board of Civil Authority, Chair



State of Vermont

2021 Legislative Reapportionment

Field	Value
District	BEN-WDM-1
Population	3865
Deviation	-422
% Deviation	-9.84%

District: BEN-WDM-1

Submitted by
Town of Woodford

Woodford, Glastenbury, Somerset, Searsburg, Readsboro, Whittingham,
Halifax, Wardsboro



TOTAL 4182