



# City of Hyattsville

Redistricting Commission  
Public Hearing

December 19, 2022





# Who are we?

Leland Dudek

Jennifer Gafford (*Race & Equity Task Force*)

Greta Mosher (*Elections Board*)

T. Carter Ross (*Ethics Commission; Recordkeeper*)

Alicia Sanchez Gill Freemyn (*Race & Equity Task Force*)

Andrew Sayer (*Chair*)

Krystil Smith

Cynthia Totten (*Education Advisory Board*)

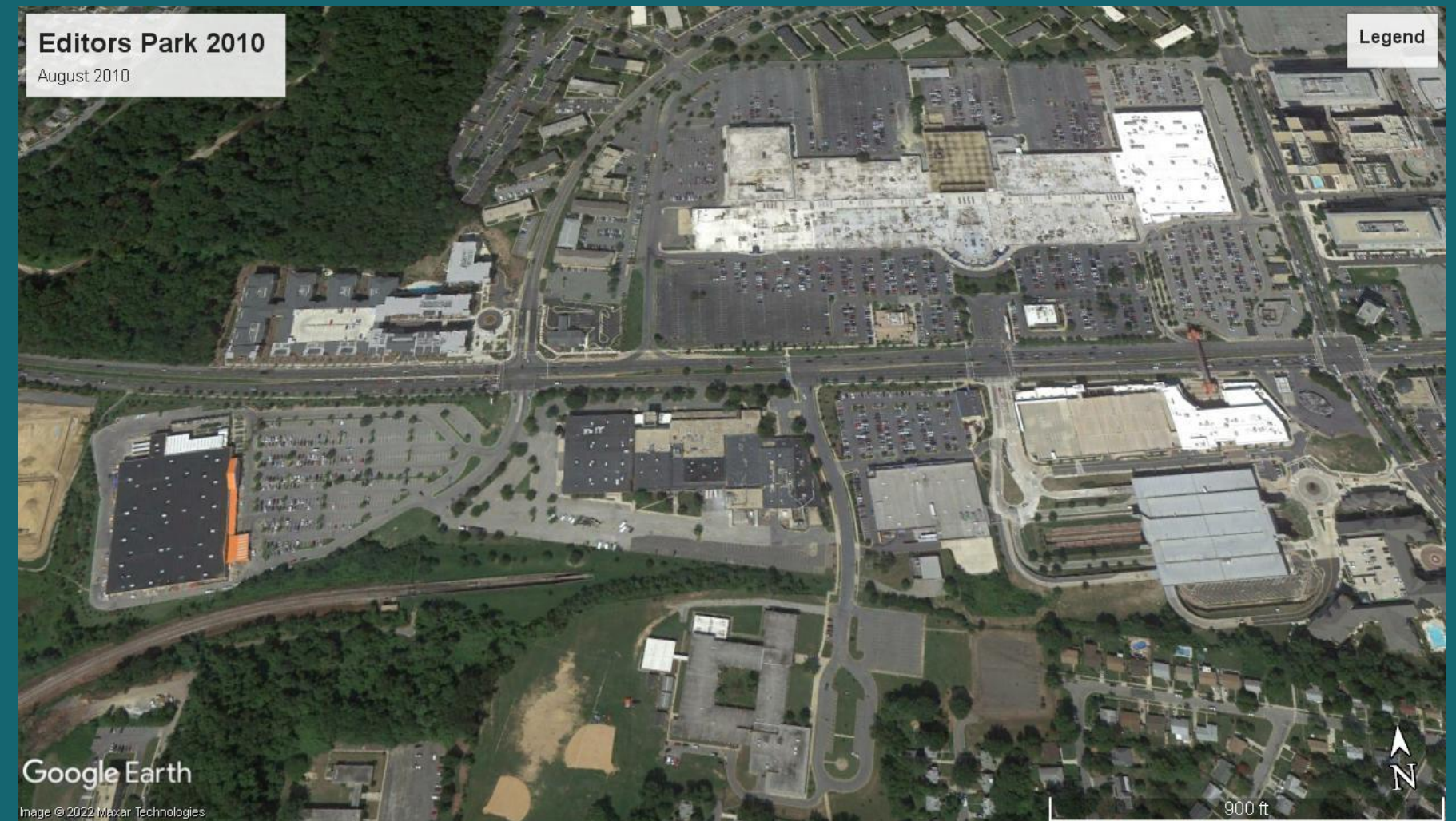
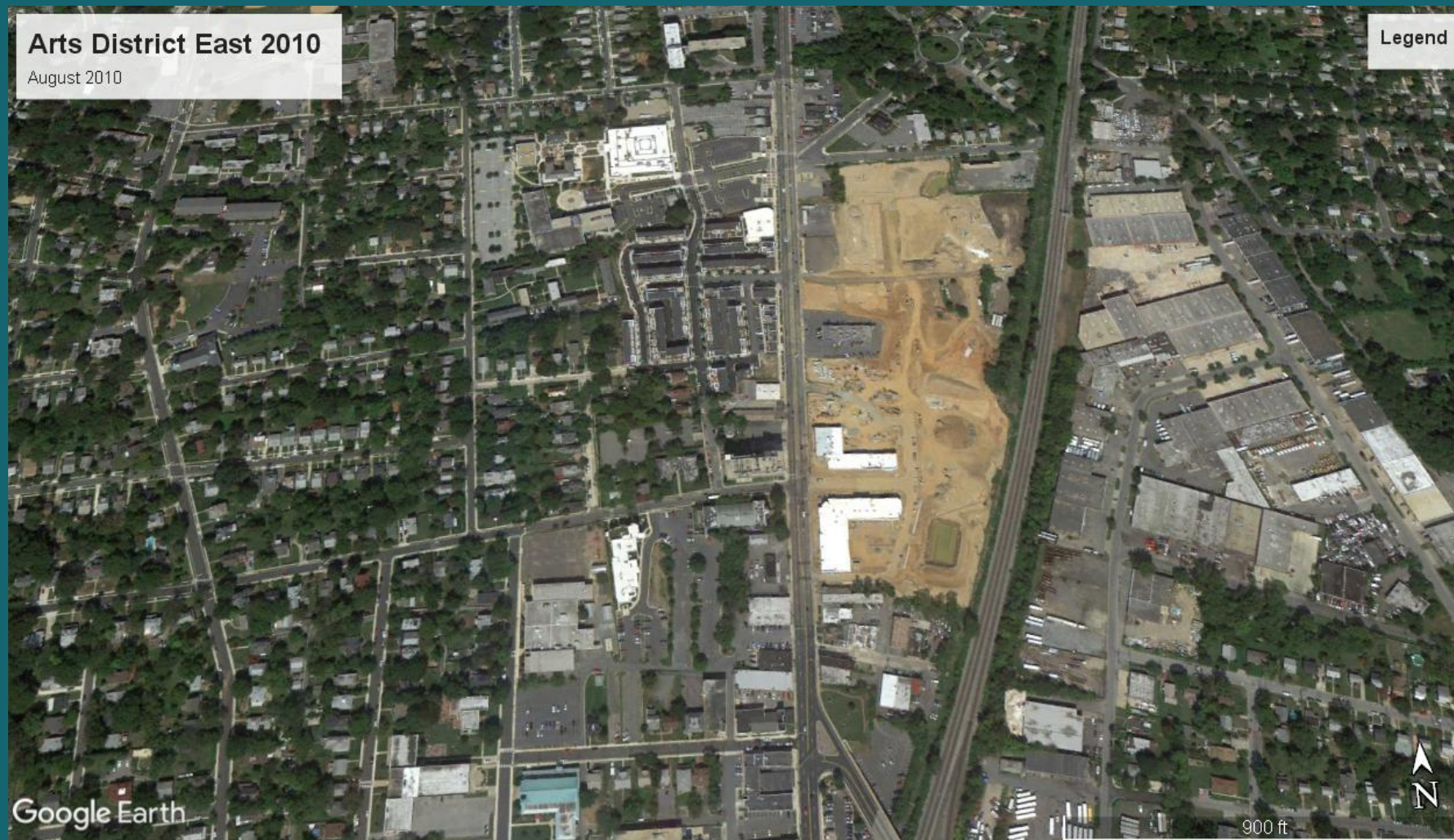
With support from City of Hyattsville staff, especially Shakira Louimarre (Race & Equity Officer), Sekour Mason (GIS Technician), and Cindy Zork (Communications Manager)



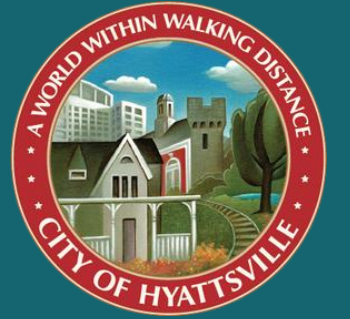
# Why are we doing this?



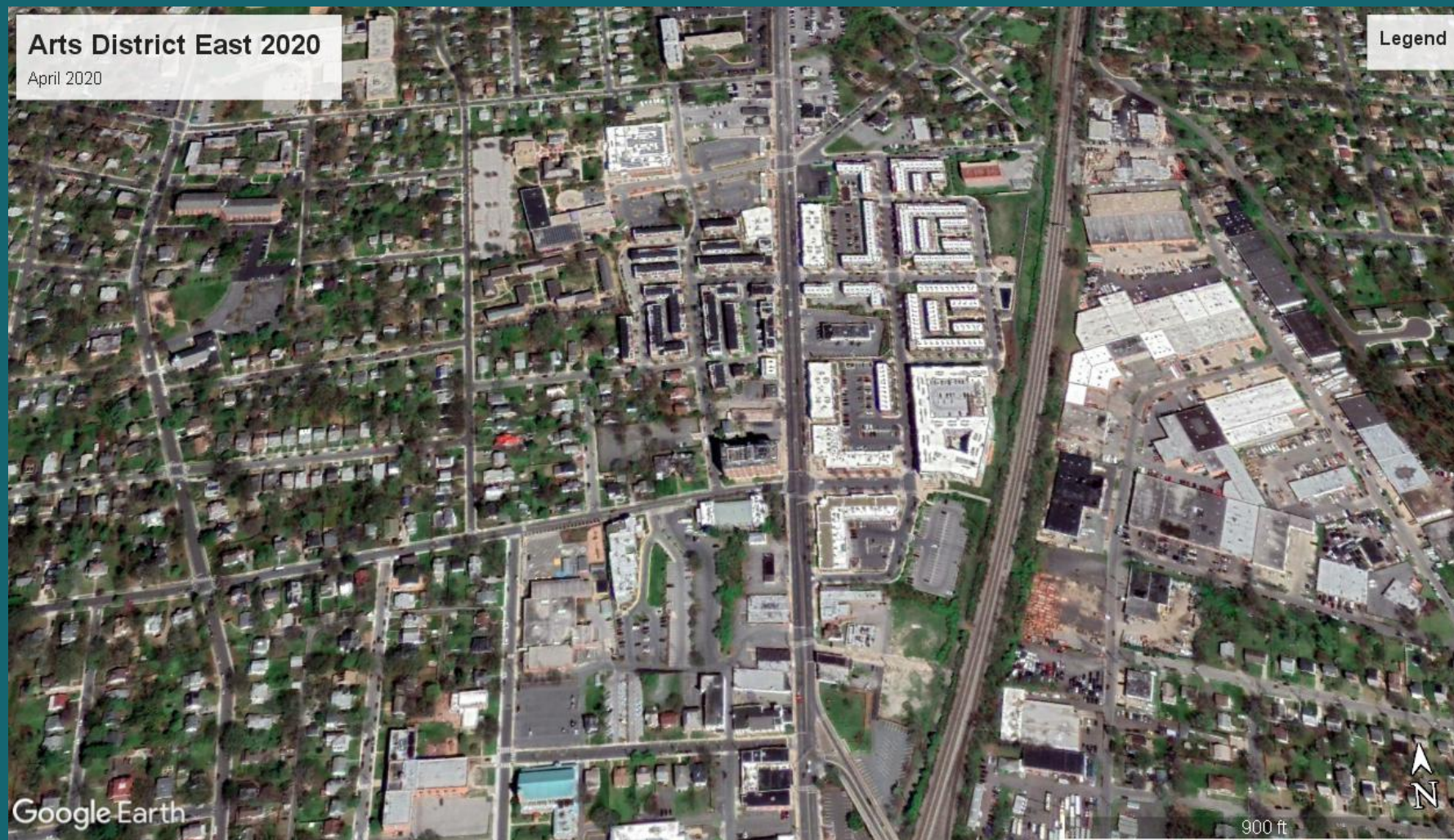
- 2020 Census; Sections §C4-16 and §C4-17 of the City Charter
- From April 1, 2010, to April 1, 2020, **Hyattsville's population grew 20.7%**



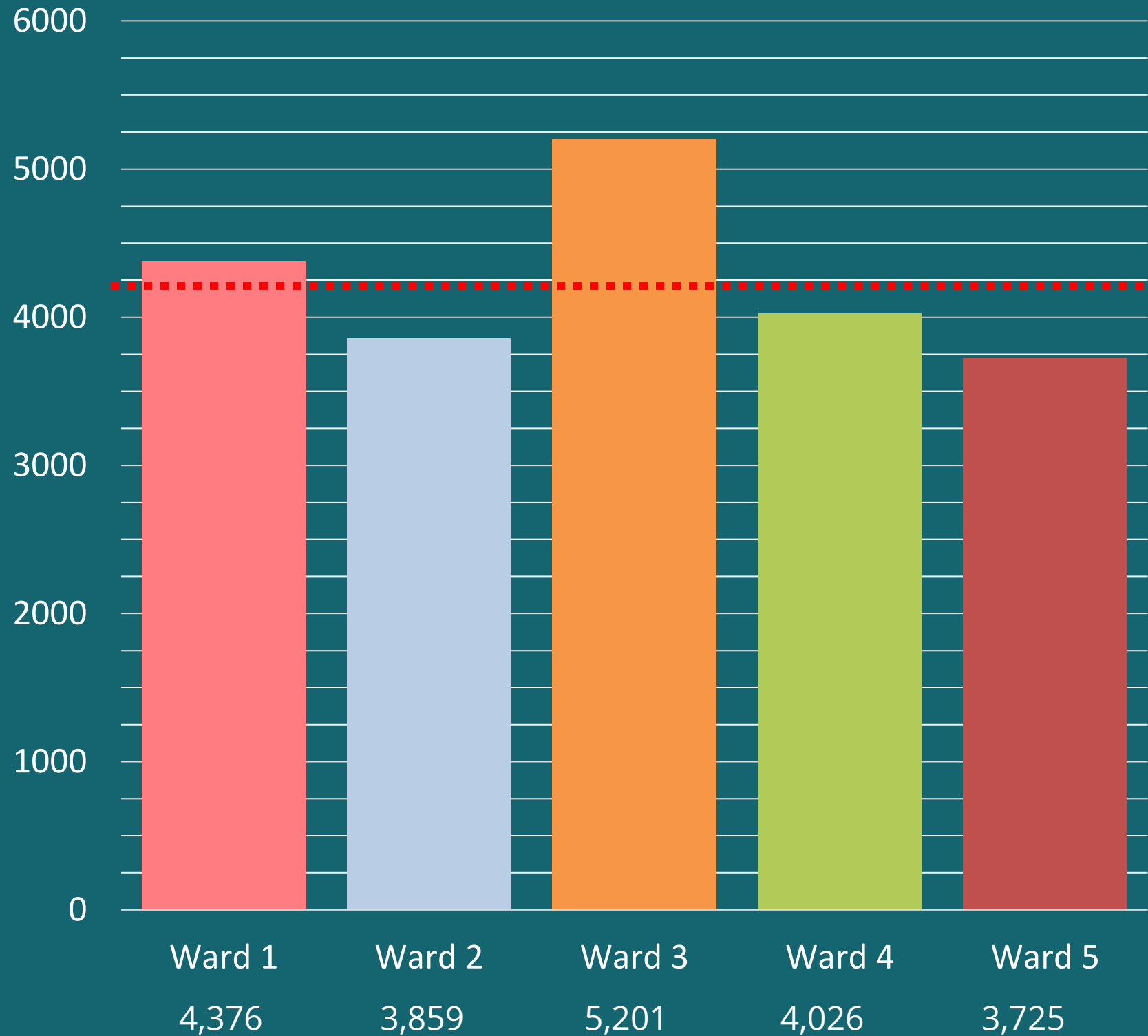
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# Why are we doing this?



- The goal is for Wards to have balanced population
  - Balance between elected official and their constituents for each Ward
  - 2020 Census: average 4,237
  - Biggest Ward should have no more than 10% more people than the smallest
  - Currently **Ward 3** has 40% more people than **Ward 5**

# What Ward balancing Is not...

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- Changing anything beyond City Council Ward boundaries (no impact on county, state or federal elections; no impact on school boundaries)
- Partisan politics (City races are non-partisan)
- Changing the Number of Wards or the City Council structure (the Council can consider making such changes, but it was not within the scope for this committee)

# How do we do it?

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- **Must** use April 1, 2020, enumeration from the U.S. Census
- **Must** keep wards reasonably compact and contiguous
- **Should** take in account natural boundaries and existing infrastructure
- **Must** seek to ensure fair and effective representation for all residents of the City, keeping in mind historically marginalized groups
- **Must** comply with local, state, and federal laws, including the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965
- **Can** consider the impact of known future development

# Equity considerations

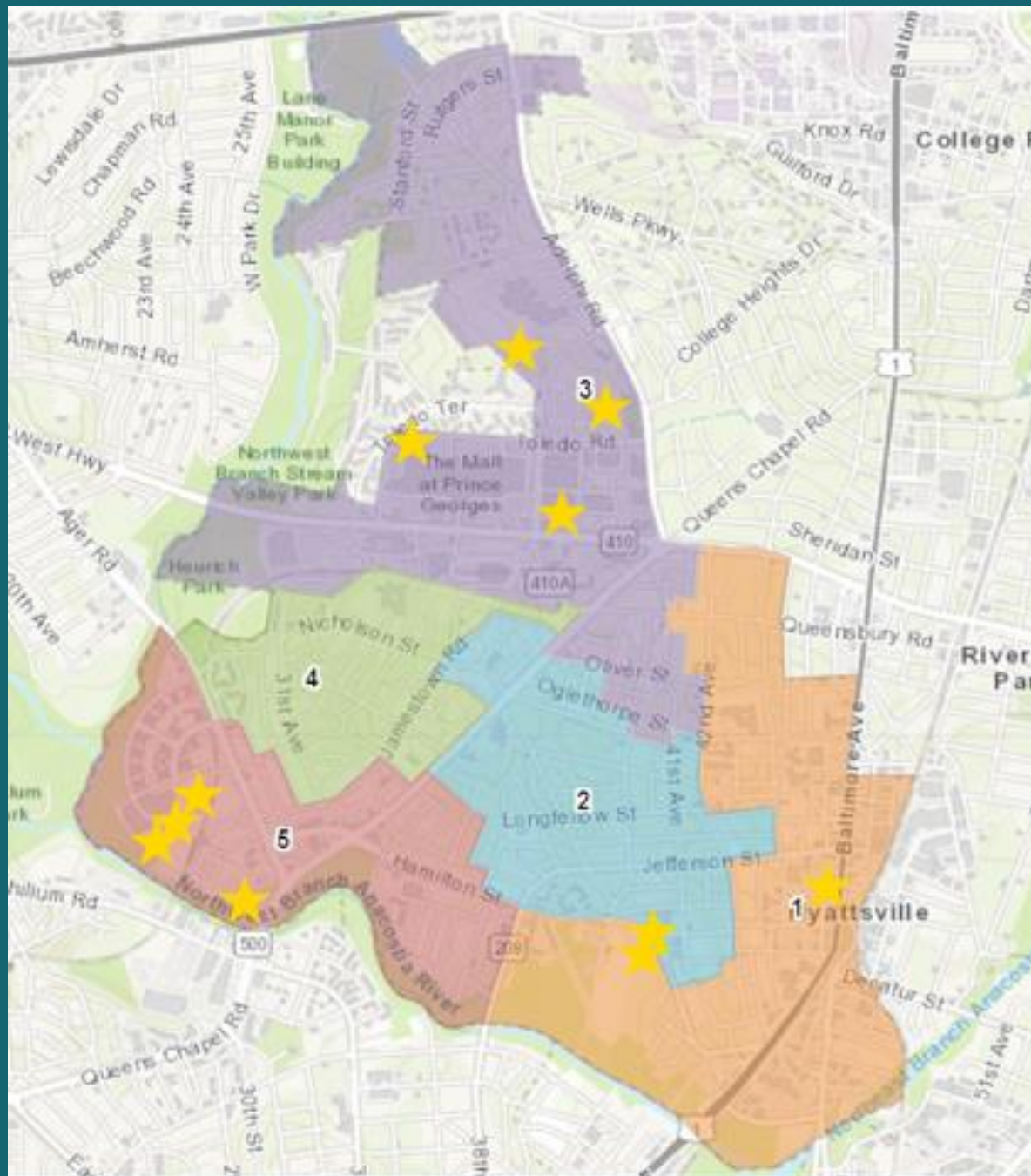
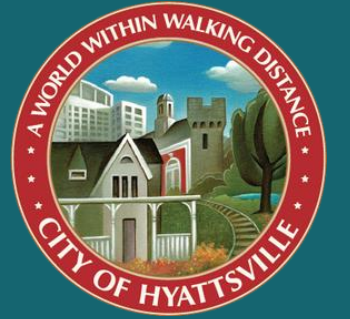
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- In alignment with the Government Alliance on Racial Equity's Equity Impact tool, we considered three key framing questions throughout the process:
  - What are the **equity impacts** of a particular decision?
  - Who will **benefit** from or be **burdened** by the decision?
  - Are there strategies to mitigate **unintended consequences**?



# Future development



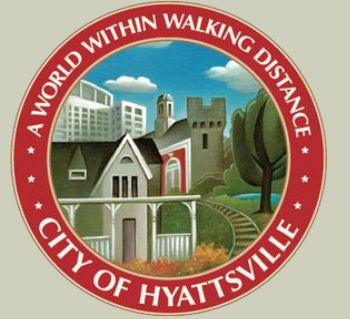
- The Hyattsville Building Boom Continues
- Almost all of the expected growth is in Wards 1, 3, and 5
- These are developments that are under construction or far along in the planning process
- Expected to add 3,437 new housing units (a mix of single-family homes, town homes, and multi-family buildings)

# Future development



# Summary of public feedback

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## Scale

Some prefer to balance for the decade ahead *“so we’ll all keep the same voting power.”*

Others prefer minimal change: *“you move us around like toys”; “our elected representatives should not be swapped out every 10 years unless we vote them out.”*

## Drawing boundaries

Straight lines feel fair; cut-out blocks look like they were done for *“political purposes”* or *“someone’s trying to benefit themselves.”*

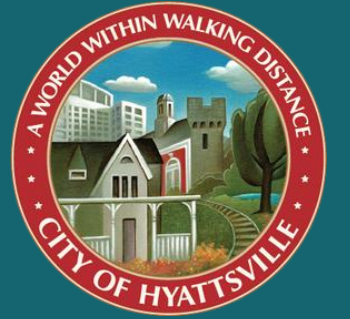
Keeping existing communities together is more important than creating demographically-even wards.

Some streets feel like natural boundaries but try to avoid cuts along residential roads; *“I should be in the same Ward as my neighbors beside and across the street”;* we have *“common traffic concerns”; “I favor dividing wards mid-block along rear property lines.”*

Using census blocks has led to some areas feeling like *“orphans”* split from their communities.

# How did the decision get made?

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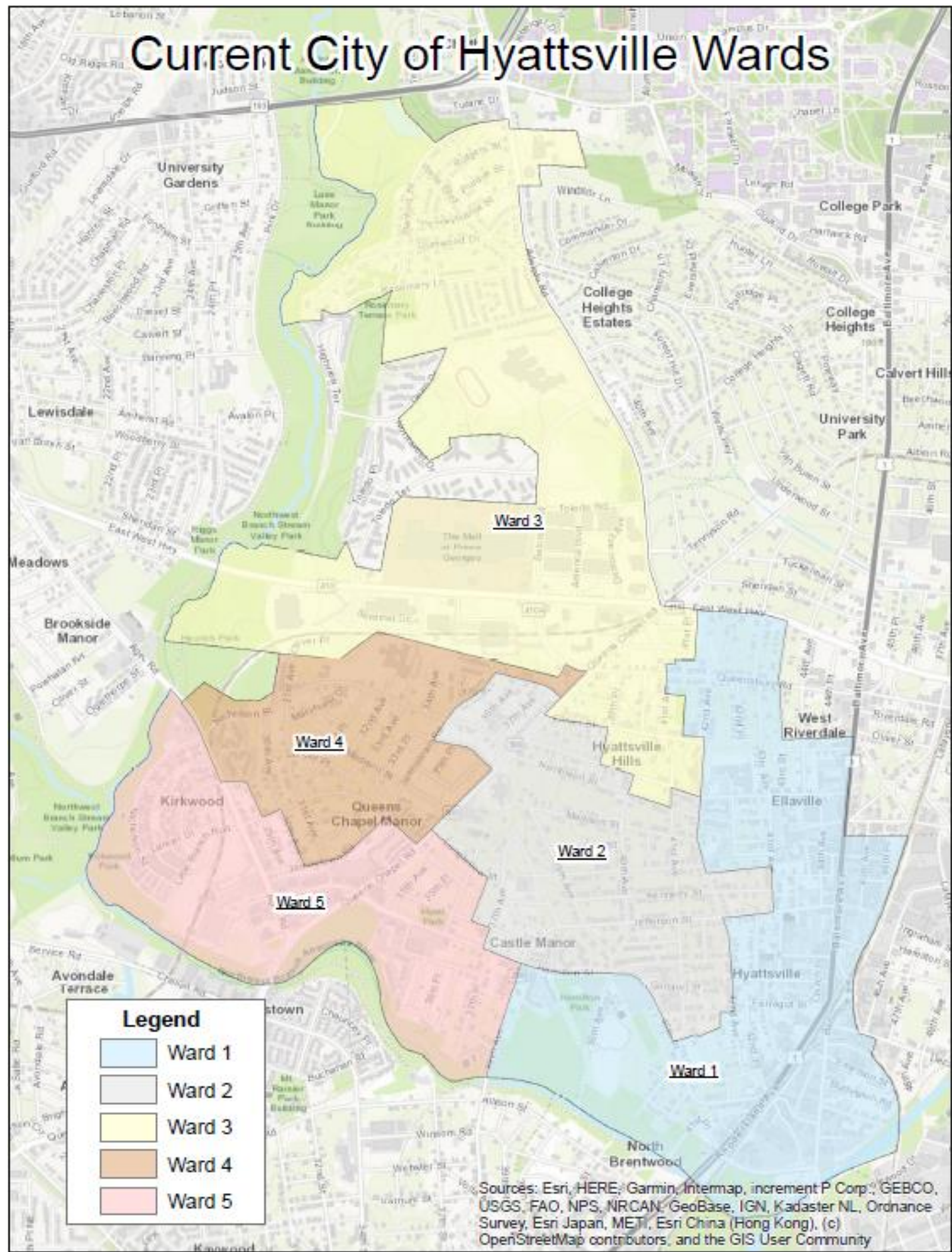


- We present candidate maps and Council votes on what to adopt
- Several presentations, reports, and discussions with Council over summer and fall
- Two map concepts were provided, discussed and voted on at November 7, 2022 Council Meeting (Growth Conscious & Minimal Adjustments)
- Neither passed; Council requested we explore feasibility of some modifications
- Three map concepts were provided and discussed at November 21, 2022 Council Meeting (Growth Conscious, Council Requests A, & Council Requests B)
- Council voted to move forward with **Council Requests B**

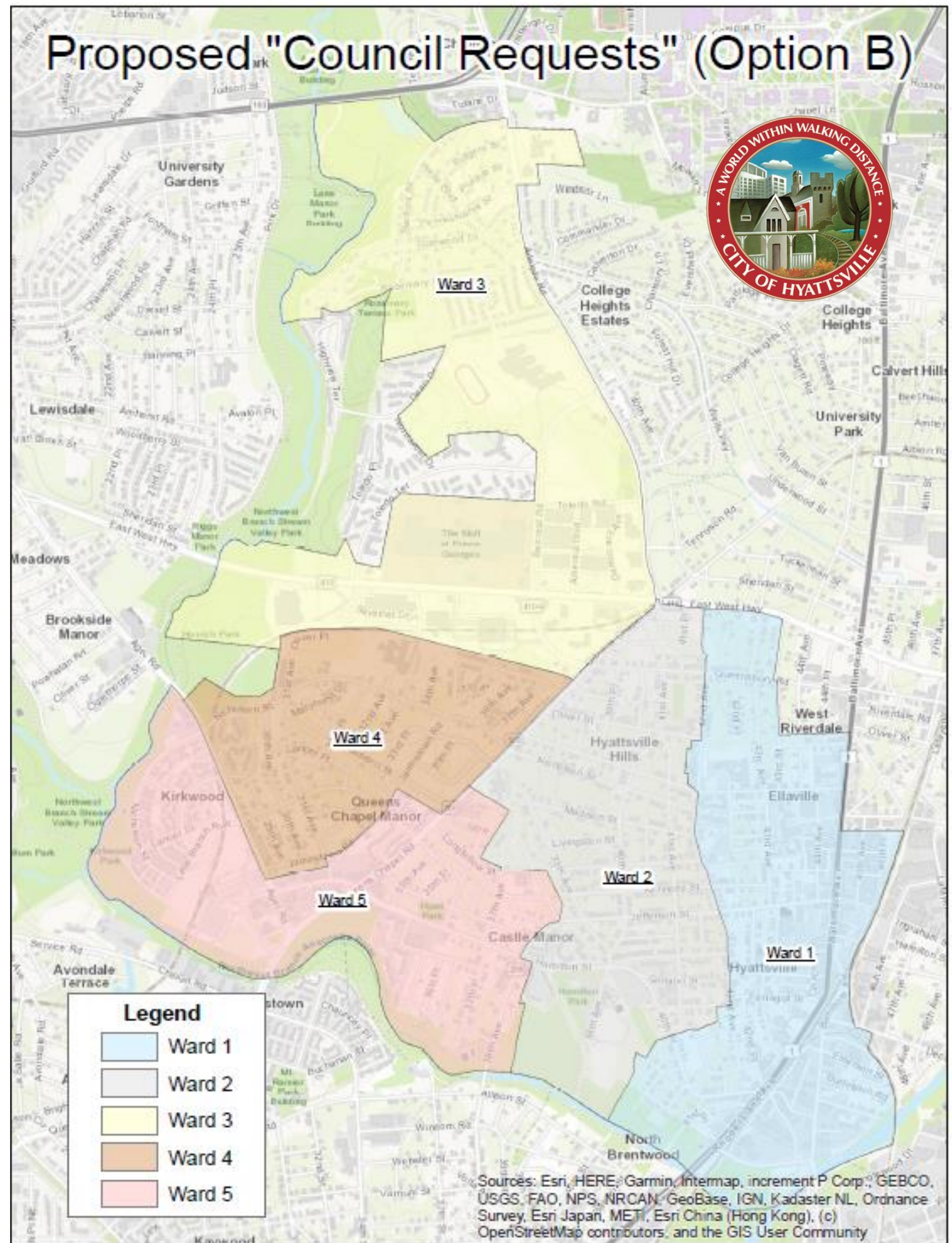


# Current and new Ward maps

## Current City of Hyattsville Wards

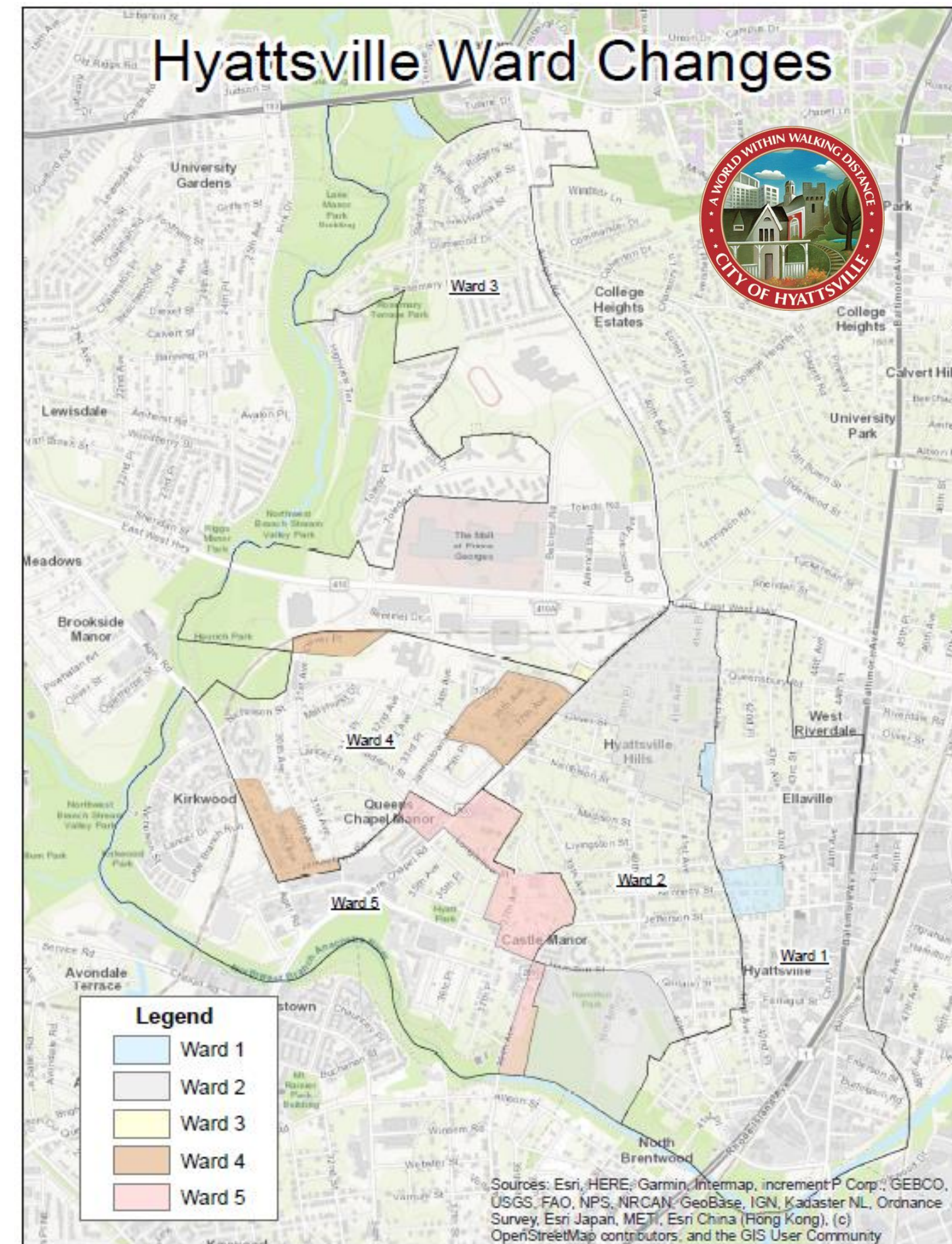


## Proposed "Council Requests" (Option B)

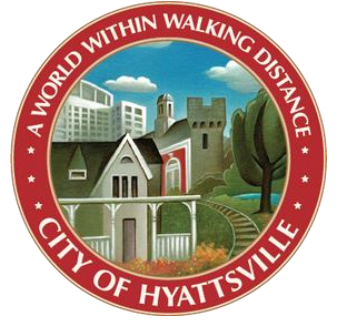


# What will change?

- Ward 3 east of Queens Chapel Rd move to **Ward 2**; **Ward 1-2** boundary runs down 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave (except apts opposite Hyattsville Middle School to **Ward 1**)
- **Ward 2** gains homes on 40<sup>th</sup> Pl north of Emerson St; Driskell Park West of drainage creek, and Park Place Condominiums along Hamilton St (currently Ward 1)
- Ward 2 “cutout” west of Queens Chapel Rd moves to **Ward 4**
- **Ward 4** takes in more of the area east of Ager Rd down to Jamestown Rd presently in Ward 5
- Hamilton Manor apartments unified into **Ward 5**
- Houses and retail southeast of Hamilton St and 38<sup>th</sup> Ave move from Ward 1 to **Ward 5**
- **Ward 5** takes in area of Ward 2 including Sacred Heart and blocks along Longfellow to 38<sup>th</sup> Ave
- Volunteer Fire Department facilities unified into **Ward 3**; undeveloped land south of Metro lines in Ward 3 moves to **Ward 4** (neither contains residents)



# Population



Map	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Max:min percentage
Current	4376	3859	<b>5201</b>	4026	<b>3725</b>	<b>40%</b>
New	4181	4289	4055	4423	4239	9%



# Summary and next steps

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## Only affects who your Council members are, nothing else

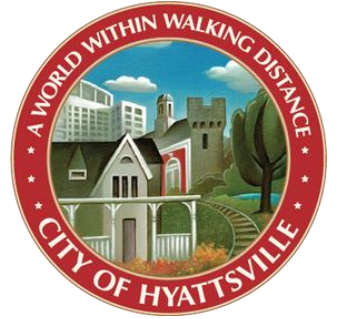
No change for over 80% of Hyattsville residents

Several currently-split communities united into single Wards

More even Ward population balance and so representation on Council

Racial & ethnic balance of Wards similar to current

Things won't change again until after 2030 census



**Dec 19 2022**

Final Public Hearing and council vote

**Dec 2022 – Jan 2023**

Public outreach campaign

**Feb 7 2023**

Ward boundary updates finalized in City Charter

**Feb 7 2023**

Candidate registration opens for 2023 City Election

**May 9 2023**

City Election Day