



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*)

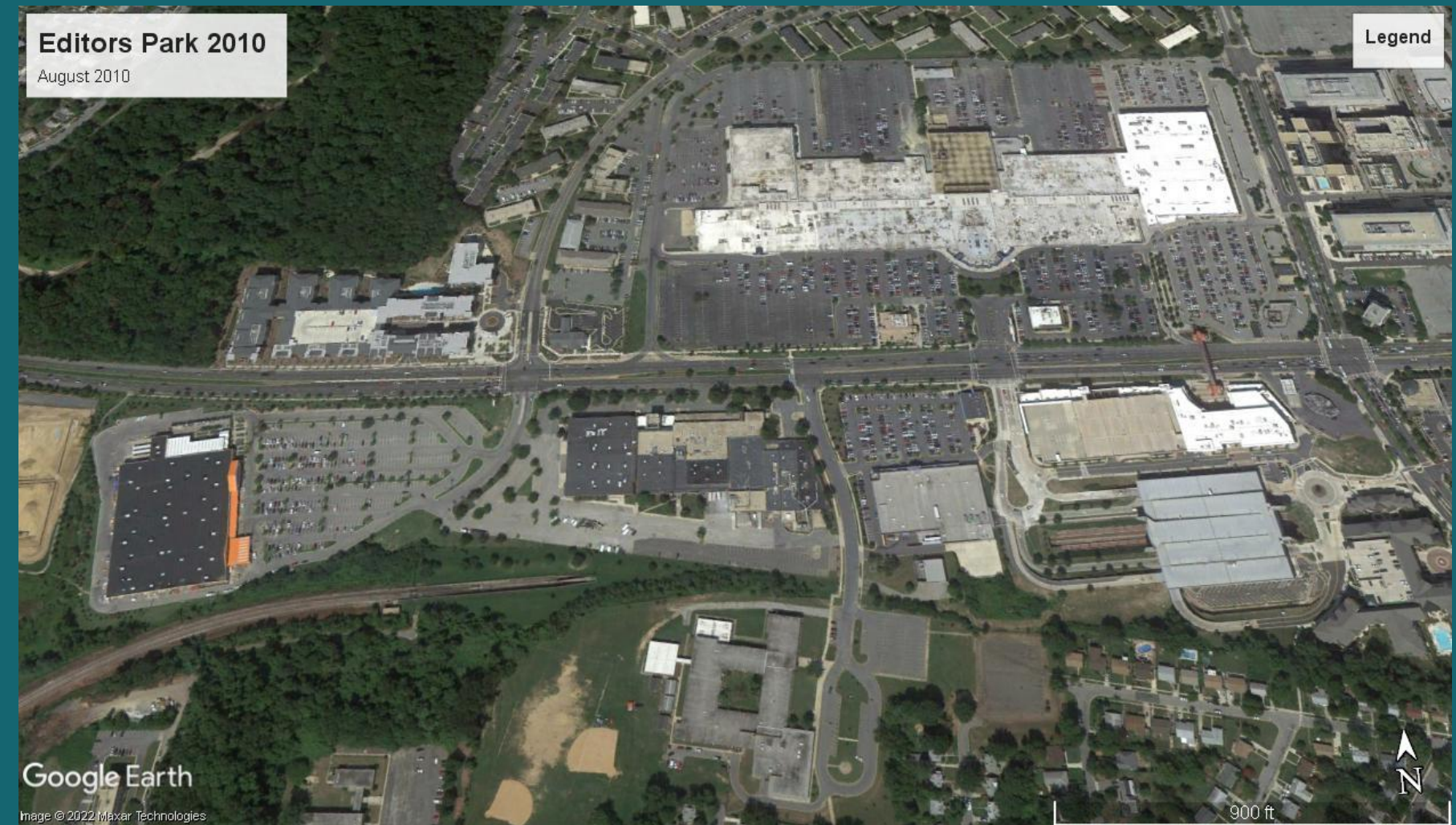
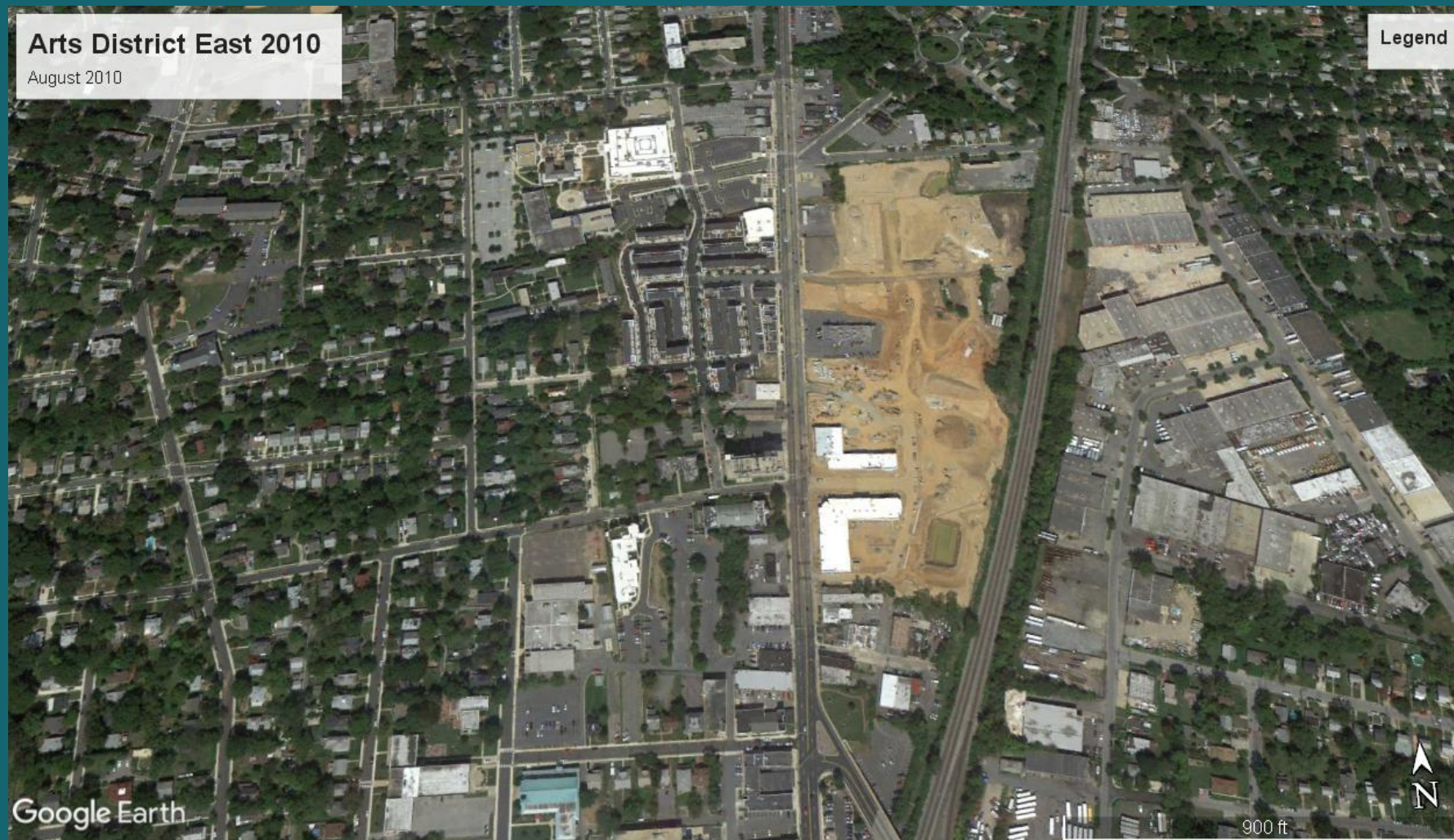
With support from City of Hyattsville staff, especially Shakira Louimarre (Race & Equity Officer), Sekour Mason (GIS Technician), and Cindy Zork (Communications Manager)



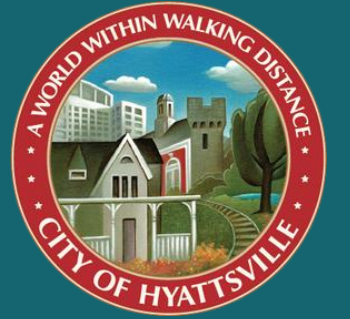
Why are we doing this?



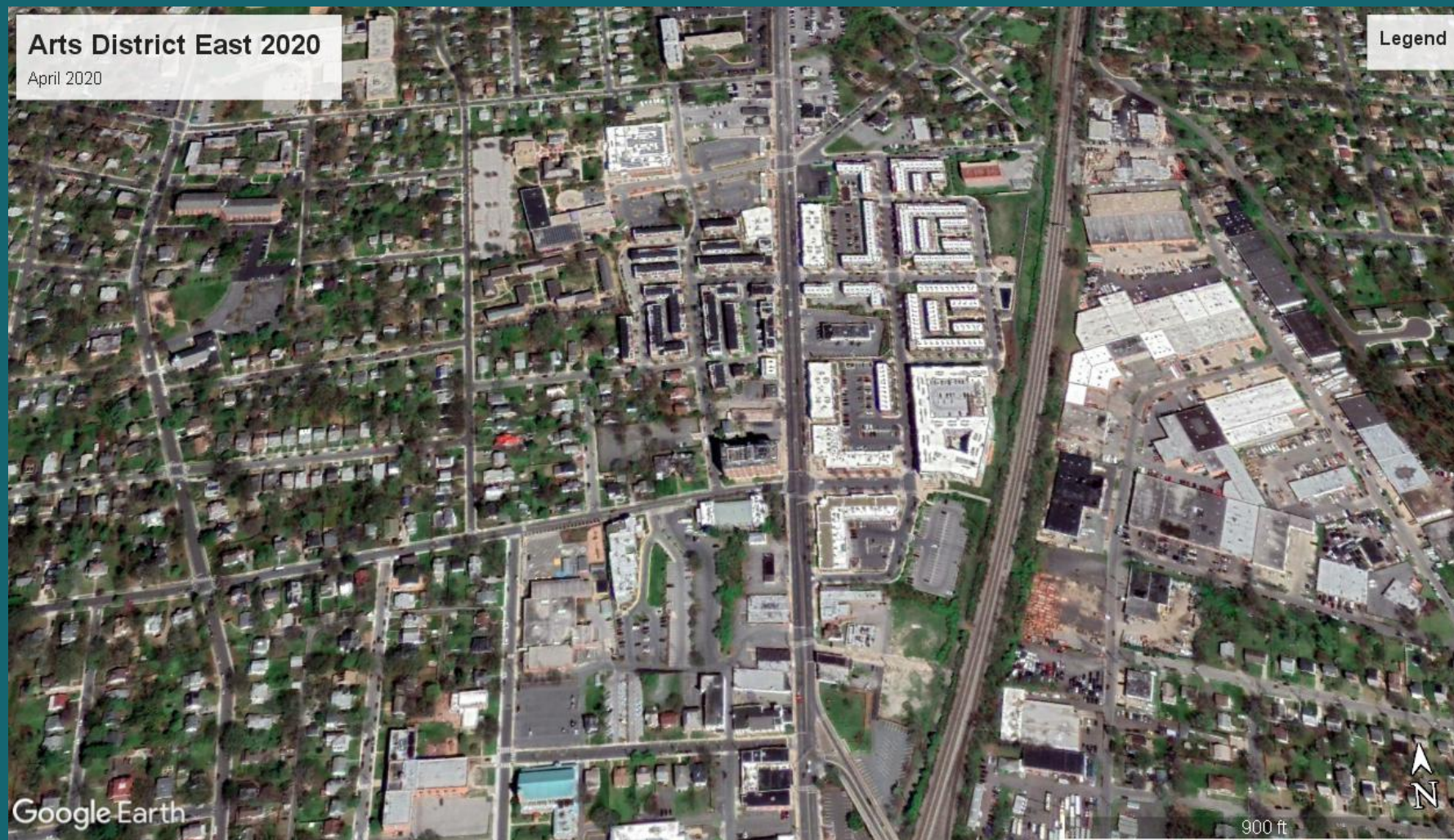
- 2020 Census; Sections §C4-16 and §C4-17 of the City Charter
- From April 1, 2010, to April 1, 2020, **Hyattsville's population grew 20.7%**



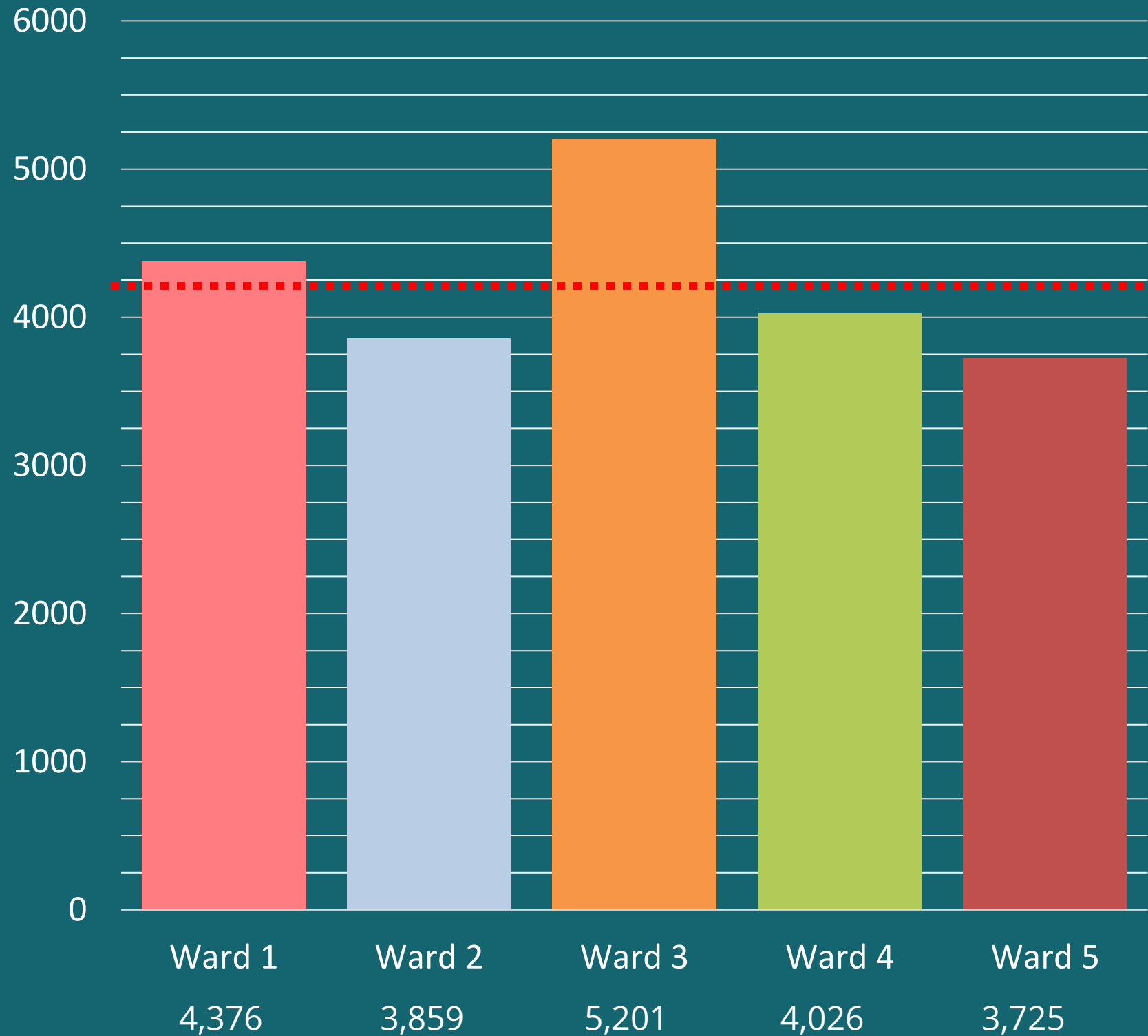
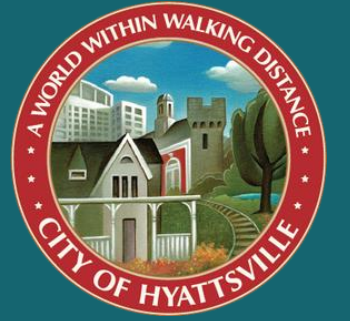
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- 2020 Census; Sections §C4-16 and §C4-17 of the City Charter
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Why are we doing this?



- 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...



- 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?



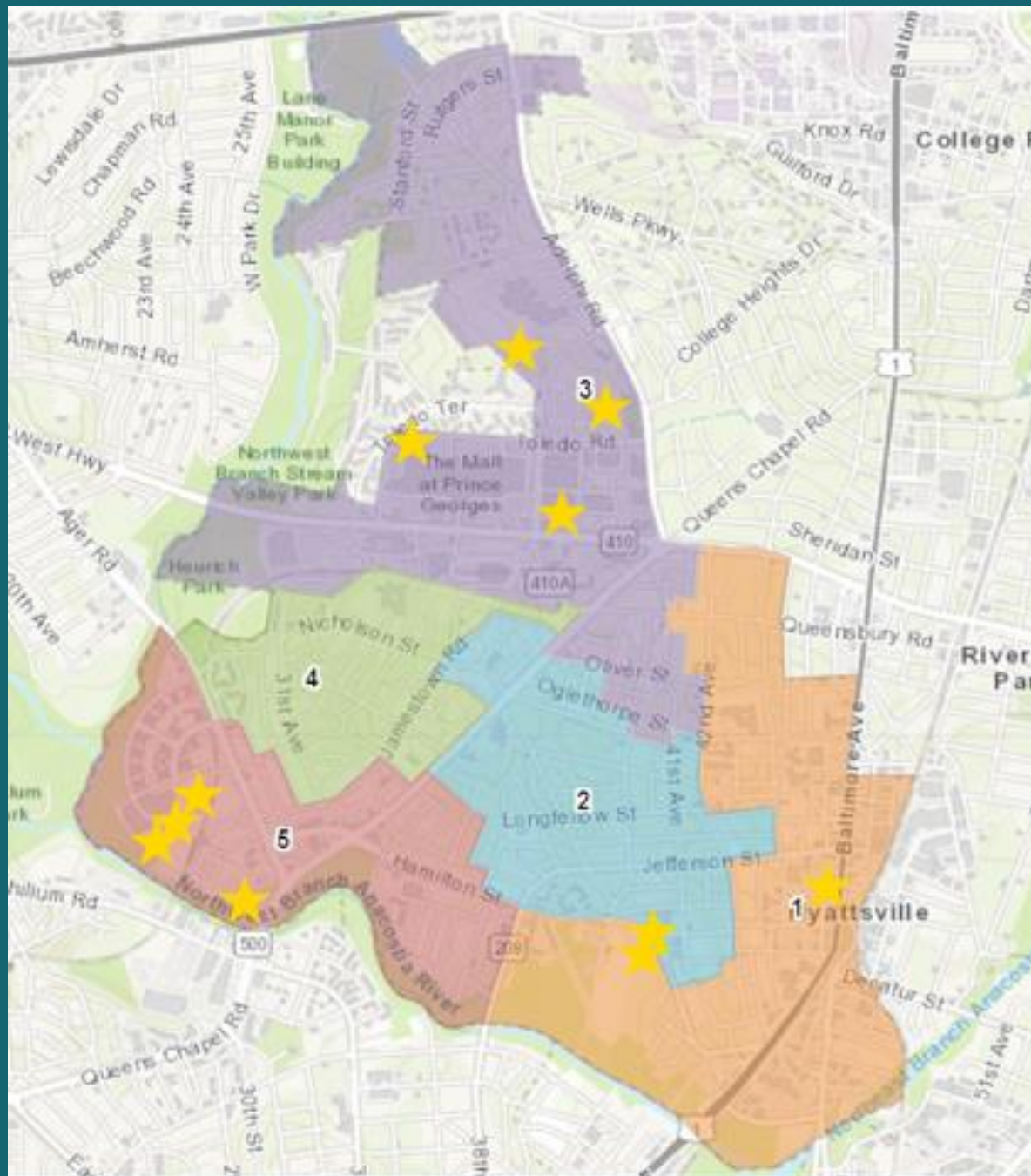
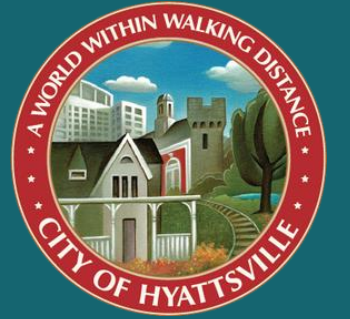
- **Must** use April 1, 2020, enumeration from the U.S. Census
- **Must** keep wards reasonably compact and contiguous
- **Should** take in account natural boundaries and existing infrastructure
- **Must** seek to ensure fair and effective representation for all residents of the City, keeping in mind 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



- 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



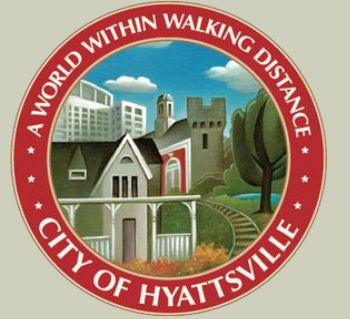
- The Hyattsville Building Boom Continues
- Almost all of the expected growth is in Wards 1, 3, and 5
- These are developments that are under construction or far along in the planning process
- Expected to add 3,437 new housing units (a mix of single-family homes, town homes, and multi-family buildings)

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

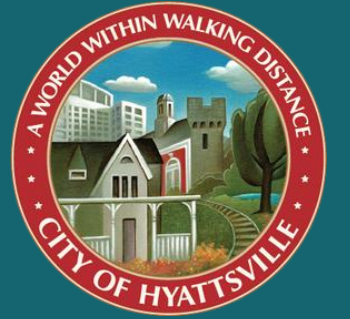
Straight lines feel fair; cut-out blocks look like they were done for *“political purposes”* or *“someone’s trying to benefit themselves.”*

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.

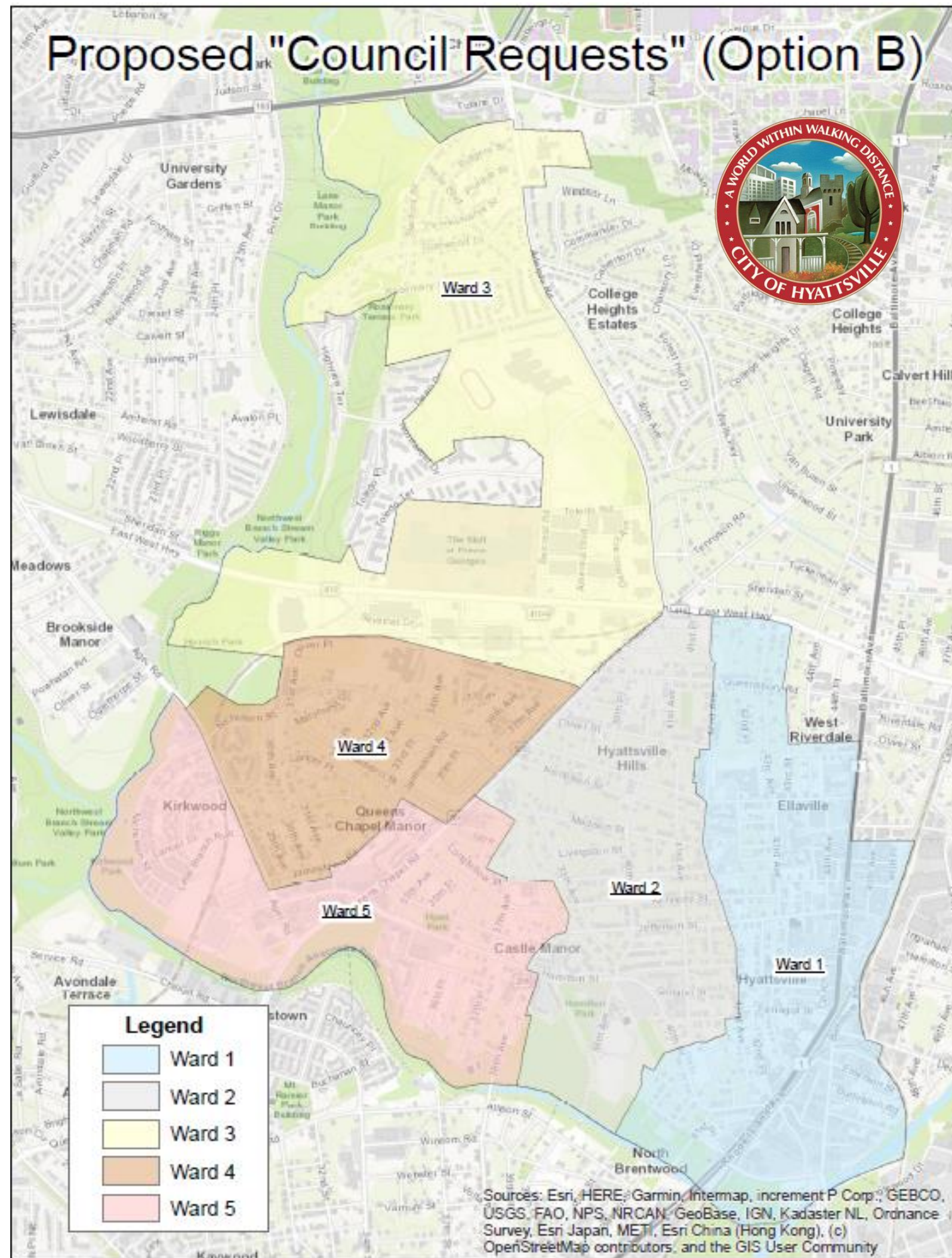
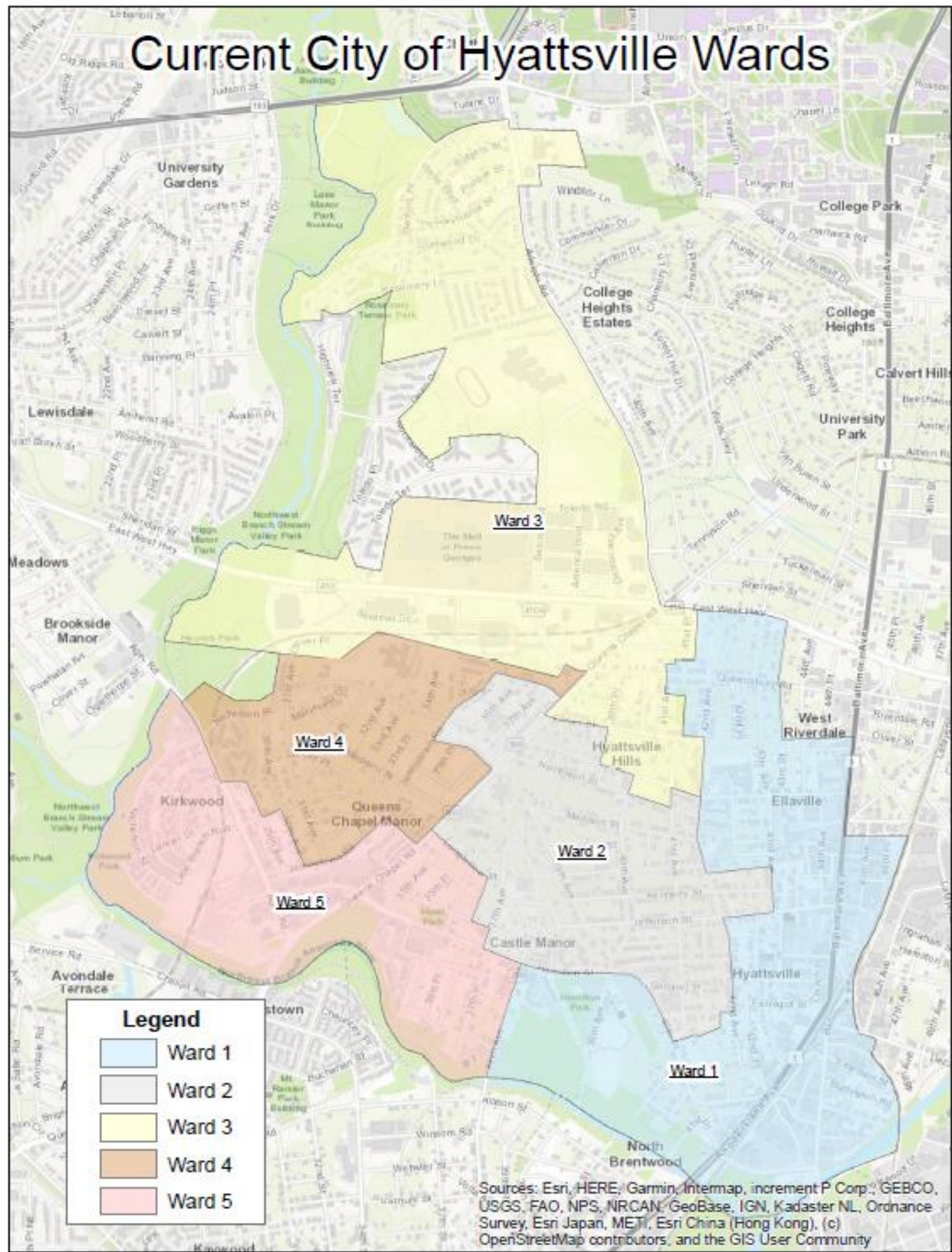
How did the decision get made?



- 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**

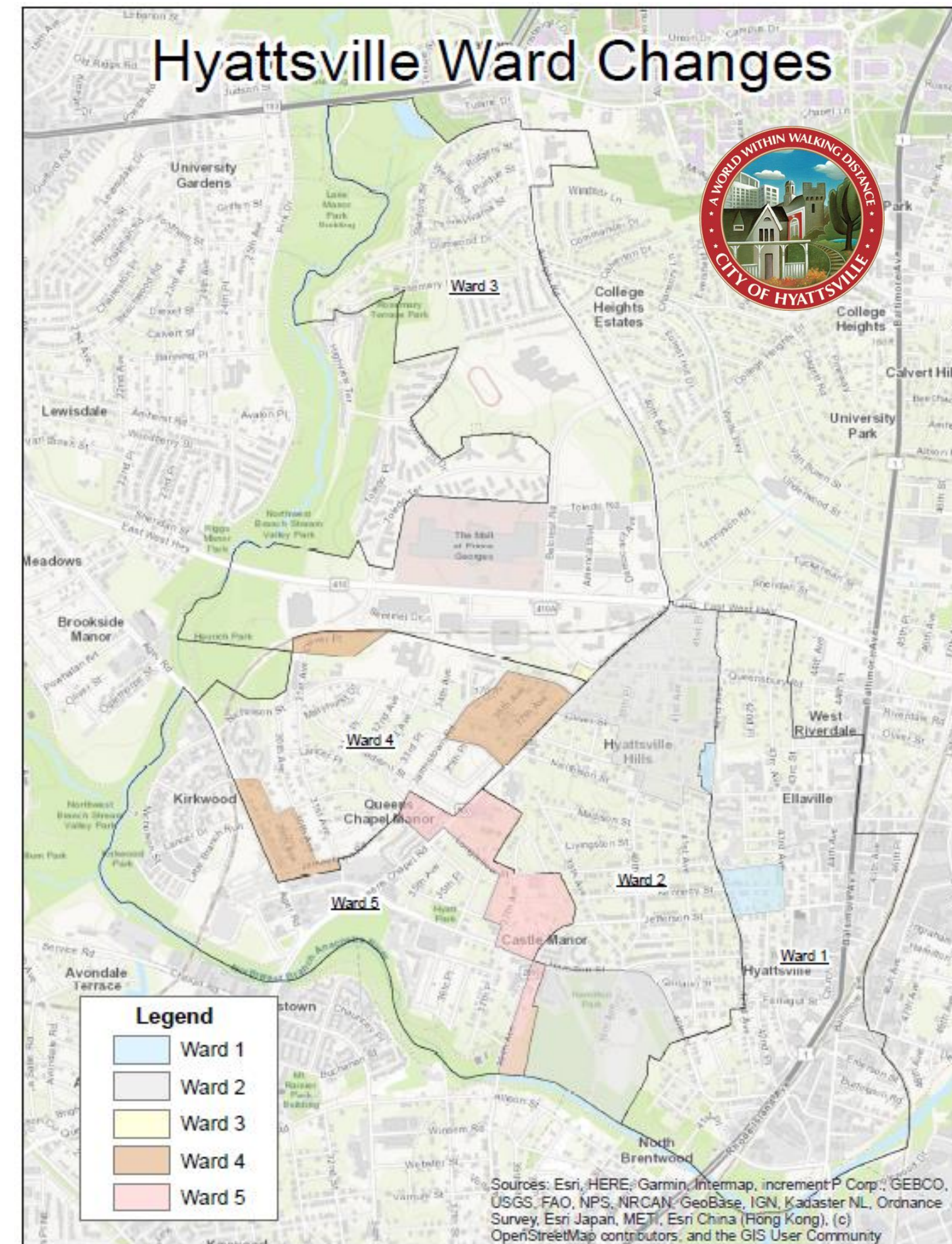


Current and new Ward maps

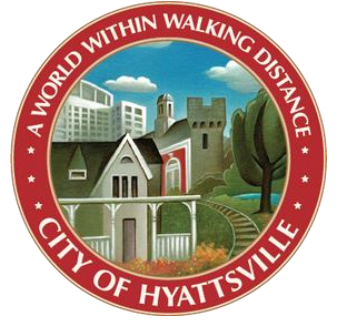


What will change?

- Ward 3 east of Queens Chapel Rd move to **Ward 2**; **Ward 1-2** boundary runs down 42nd Ave (except apts opposite Hyattsville Middle School to **Ward 1**)
- **Ward 2** gains homes on 40th 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 38th Ave move from Ward 1 to **Ward 5**
- **Ward 5** takes in area of Ward 2 including Sacred Heart and blocks along Longfellow to 38th 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	5201	4026	3725	40%
New	4181	4289	4055	4423	4239	9%

Summary and next steps

Only affects who your Council members are, nothing else

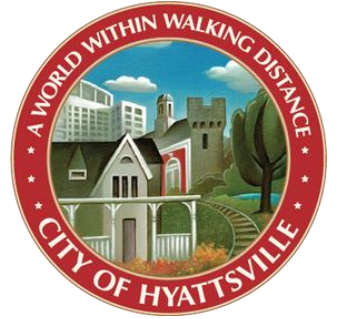
No change for over 80% of Hyattsville residents

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