



**LAWRENCE KESTENBAUM
COUNTY CLERK / REGISTER OF DEEDS**

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MEMO

To: Washtenaw County Apportionment Commission
From: Ed Golembiewski, Chief Deputy Clerk/Register & Director of Elections
Date: November 4, 2021
Re: Submitted Apportionment Plans - "Precinct Split" Report

Commissioners,

The County Clerk's office has reviewed apportionment plans submitted by Apportionment Commission Members to date and has identified "precinct splits" described in this memo. A precinct split is one that is divided between multiple county commissioner districts.

MCL 46.404 sets guidelines for apportionment specifically addressing precinct splits in subsection (f):

In apportioning the county into commissioner districts, the county apportionment commission shall be governed by the following guidelines in the stated order of importance:

- (a) All districts shall be single-member districts and as nearly of equal population as is practicable...*
- (b) All districts shall be contiguous.*
- (c) All districts shall be as compact and of as nearly square shape as is practicable, depending on the geography of the county area involved.*
- (d) No township or part thereof shall be combined with any city or part thereof for a single district, unless such combination is needed to meet the population standard.*
- (e) Townships, villages and cities shall be divided only if necessary to meet the population standard.*
- (f) Precincts shall be divided only if necessary to meet the population standard.***
- (g) Residents of state institutions who cannot by law register in the county as electors shall be excluded from any consideration of representation.*
- (h) Districts shall not be drawn to effect partisan political advantage.*

Precinct splits should be avoided unless necessary as they cause confusion among voters and place significant burdens on election administrators and poll workers who must prepare for and implement multiple ballot styles in affected precincts. The implementation of multiple ballot styles opens the possibility for errors. Care must be taken to ensure that voters receive the proper ballot style containing the district race they are eligible to cast a vote in.

About this Report

- Only plans submitted by Apportionment Commission Members have been reviewed and included herein. Analysis of plans submitted by the public can be conducted at the direction of the commission.
- This report identifies splits affecting areas within current precincts where residential units exist, could be soon developed, and where it is not immediately clear whether such units exist.
- Splits resulting from township “islands” are not included as eliminating them is not feasible.

Precinct Splits Identified in Proposed Apportionment Plans

9 District Map “Current Districts Modified” - Kestenbaum

Split Precinct	Districts	Notes
City of Ann Arbor W3 P4	7 & 8	Split at Independence Blvd
City of Ann Arbor W3 P5	4 & 7	Swift Run area, <i>possibly no residential units here</i>
Pittsfield Township Precinct 1	4 & 7	Industrial area, <i>possibly no residential units here</i>

11 District Map (A) - Savit

Split Precinct	Districts	Notes
City of Ann Arbor W1 P4	1 & 4	Split at the future site of Broadway Park West
City of Ann Arbor W5 P6	1 & 3	West Hoover
City of Ypsilanti W2 P2	5 & 6	Superior Rd & North Huron River Dr
Pittsfield Township Precinct 9	2 & 8	Stone School south of Ellsworth
Pittsfield Township Precinct 11	8 & 9	N. Maple Rd south of Windmill Way

11 District Map (D) - Savit

Split Precinct	Districts	Notes
City of Ann Arbor W1 P4	1 & 4	The future site of Broadway Park West
City of Ann Arbor W5 P6	1 & 3	West Hoover
City of Ypsilanti W2 P2	5 & 6	Superior Rd & North Huron River Dr
Pittsfield Township Precinct 9	2 & 8	Stone School south of Ellsworth
Pittsfield Township Precinct 11	8 & 9	N. Maple Rd south of Windmill Way

11 District Map (F) - Savit

Split Precinct	Districts	Notes
City of Ann Arbor W4 P5	2 & 3	At Pine Valley Blvd
City of Ann Arbor W5 P6	1 & 3	West Hoover
Lodi Township Precinct 1	9 & 10	Weber Rd and Alber Rd
Pittsfield Township Precinct 11	8 & 9	N. Maple Rd south of Windmill Way
Webster Township Precinct 3	10 & 11	Dexter-Pinckney Rd. northwest of railroad. <i>Possibly no residential units here.</i>
City of Ypsilanti W2 P2	5 & 6	Superior Rd & North Huron River Dr

15 District Map - Kestenbaum

Split Precinct	Districts	Notes
City of Ann Arbor W1 P1	4 & 5	Split at Williams St
City of Ann Arbor W1 P2	1 & 5	Split at Main St
City of Ann Arbor W1 P4	1 & 5	Split at Felch St and North Ashley St
City of Ann Arbor W1 P8	1 & 5	South of Felch St.
City of Ann Arbor W1 P12	1 & 2	Washtenaw and Geddes
City of Ann Arbor W2 P2	1 & 2	Geddes to N. University Ct. to Observatory St
Pittsfield Township Precinct 9	13 & 14	W Ellsworth and Lohr Rd
Pittsfield Township Precinct 11	13 & 14	Split at Lohr Rd
Pittsfield Township Precinct 12	13 & 14	Two areas: West of Moon, South of W Textile
Webster Township Precinct 1	6 & 7	Split at North Territorial
Ypsilanti Township Precinct 5	9 & 10	East of Rue Willette

Updated City Ward Boundaries

The Cities of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti are statutorily required to amend ward boundaries to balance population using the same census data published for county apportionment.

The City of Ann Arbor adopted amendments to ward boundaries on November 1, 2021 and has encouraged the Apportionment Commission to review them. While wards are not addressed in statutory apportionment plan criteria, the City has requested the courtesy of aligning county commissioner districts to updated ward boundaries *if practicable*, given that existing precinct boundaries will soon change to align with new ward boundaries. The City of Arbor’s ward boundary changes are visible as a unique layer in the online [“Submitted Apportionment Maps”](#) published by Washtenaw County GIS.

The City of Ypsilanti has proposed but not yet adopted ward boundary changes. No apportionment plan reviewed in this memo would divide the city between more than one county commissioner district and, accordingly, a review of proposed ward amendments is unnecessary.