



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS

Committee of the Whole Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: April 11, 2022

Prepared By: Jon Oliphant, AICP, Planning & Development Director

Agenda Item: City Wards Redistricting Discussion

Explanation: The City of Washington's 2020 Census population of 16,071 was certified by the Secretary of State late last year. The City's population falls between the range of 15,001 and 20,000, which dictates that there be ten aldermen and five wards. However, municipalities may choose to retain the number of aldermen and wards that existed prior to the most recent decennial census. The City approved the attached resolution in 2011 to maintain the status quo after the 2010 Census population fit into the same range.

State statute dictates that all Illinois cities must redraw their aldermanic wards to be "nearly equal in population, and as compact and contiguous as practicable. It has not been clear what "nearly equal" means, but the U.S. Supreme Court has stated that anything beyond a ten percent deviation creates a presumption of discrimination and therefore must be justified on a legitimate, non-discriminatory basis according to the Illinois Municipal League. Staff has strived to maintain no greater than a two percent difference in ward populations. This would keep the population of each ward at 3,938-4,098.

The existing wards map and two draft redistricted maps are enclosed. Much of the City's population growth has been in Ward IV. As can be seen by the table on each of the maps, the current population of Ward IV (5,120) makes up about 32 percent of the City's population. A substantial part of Ward IV must be reconfigured to stay within the two percent deviation of the targeted individual ward population of 4,018.

The two redistricting versions have been generated after looking at numerous possibilities. The populations of each individual Census Block were analyzed to shape the distribution. As was the case during the last redistricting, these primary factors influenced how the initial ward options were drafted:

- Respecting primary geographic boundaries (Route 8, BR 24, etc.) whenever possible
- The addresses of the existing aldermen
- No precinct is divided between more than two wards
- Keeping the wards as compact and contiguous as possible

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Action Requested: Feedback at the April 11 Committee of the Whole meeting on the draft redistricting options. These are presented as alternatives to open the discussion and staff has no pride of authorship of them. Additionally, staff requests feedback on whether to retain having eight aldermen and four wards. If the consensus is to keep the status quo, a resolution will be scheduled for approval at the April 18 City Council meeting. Should there be interest in having ten aldermen and eight wards, staff would request direction on the general geography of a fifth ward that can be used to generate new map options for discussion at a future meeting. According to state law, the redistricting must be completed not less than 30 days before the first day for filing candidate petitions under the general election law for the next succeeding election of the City Council, which would require that it be approved via ordinance by mid-November.

RESOLUTION NO. R-999

**A RESOLUTION MAINTAINING THE NUMBER OF
ALDERMEN IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON AT EIGHT**

WHEREAS, the decennial census has established that the City of Washington's population is greater than 15,000, but does not exceed 20,000; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Municipal Code at §3.1-20-10 (65 ILCS 5/3.1-20-10) allows a municipality with 15,000 or more inhabitants but less than 20,000 inhabitants to have eight (8) aldermen.

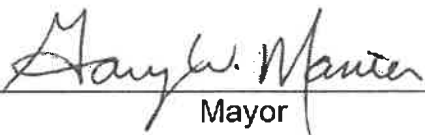
WHEREAS, the City Council believes it will be in the best interest of the residents of the City to have eight (8) aldermen and four (4) wards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, TAZEWELL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, a home-rule municipality, that the City shall have eight (8) aldermen.

DATED this 6th day of June, 2011.

AYES: Brucks, Moss, Schneider, Newman, Clanin, Howerter, Dingleline

NAYS: -0-

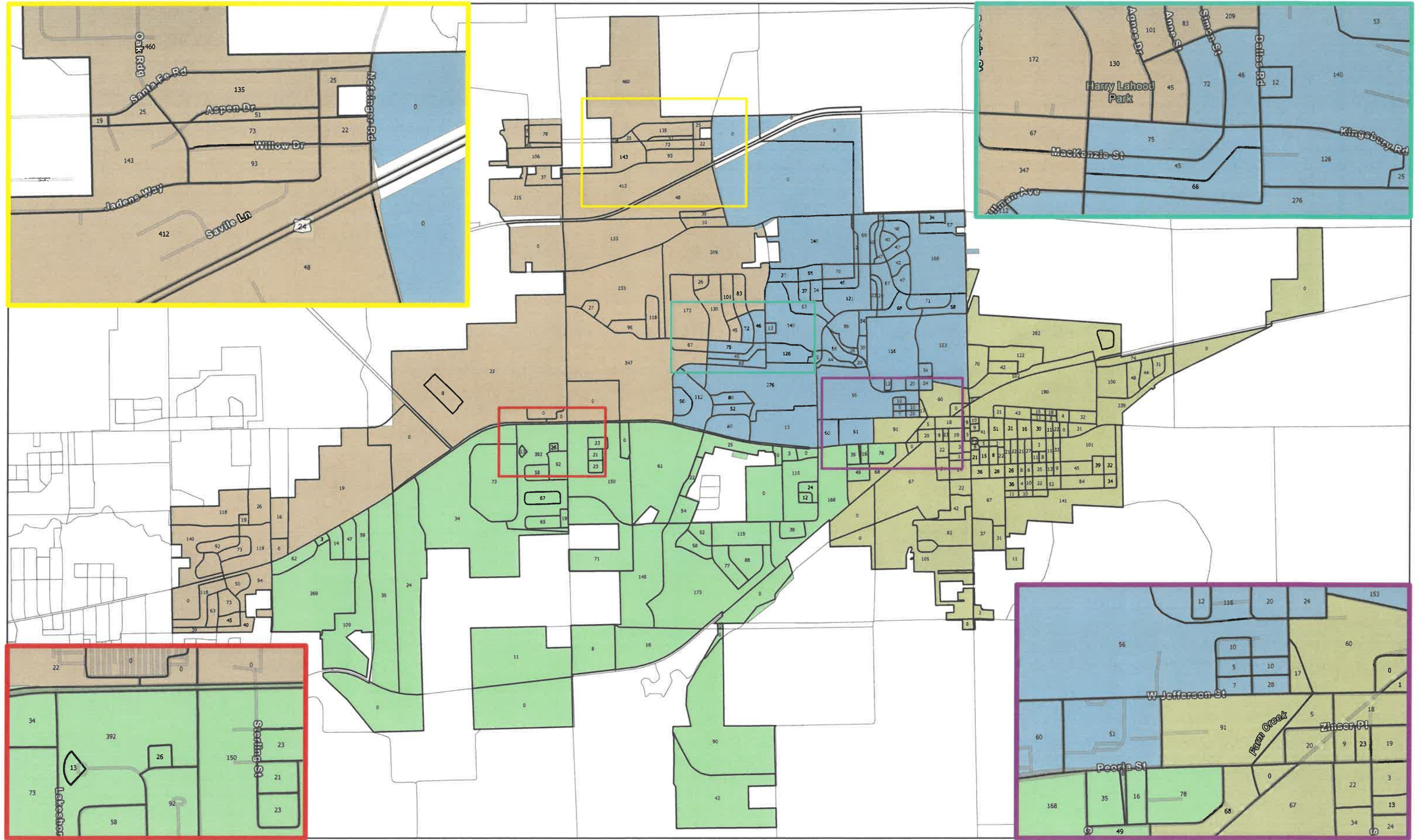


Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk



2020 Census Block Populations

Ward I Population: 3,859 Ward III Population: 3,334
Ward II Population: 3,718 Ward IV Population: 5,120

City Boundary

Census Blocks

Ward I

Ward II

Ward III

Ward IV

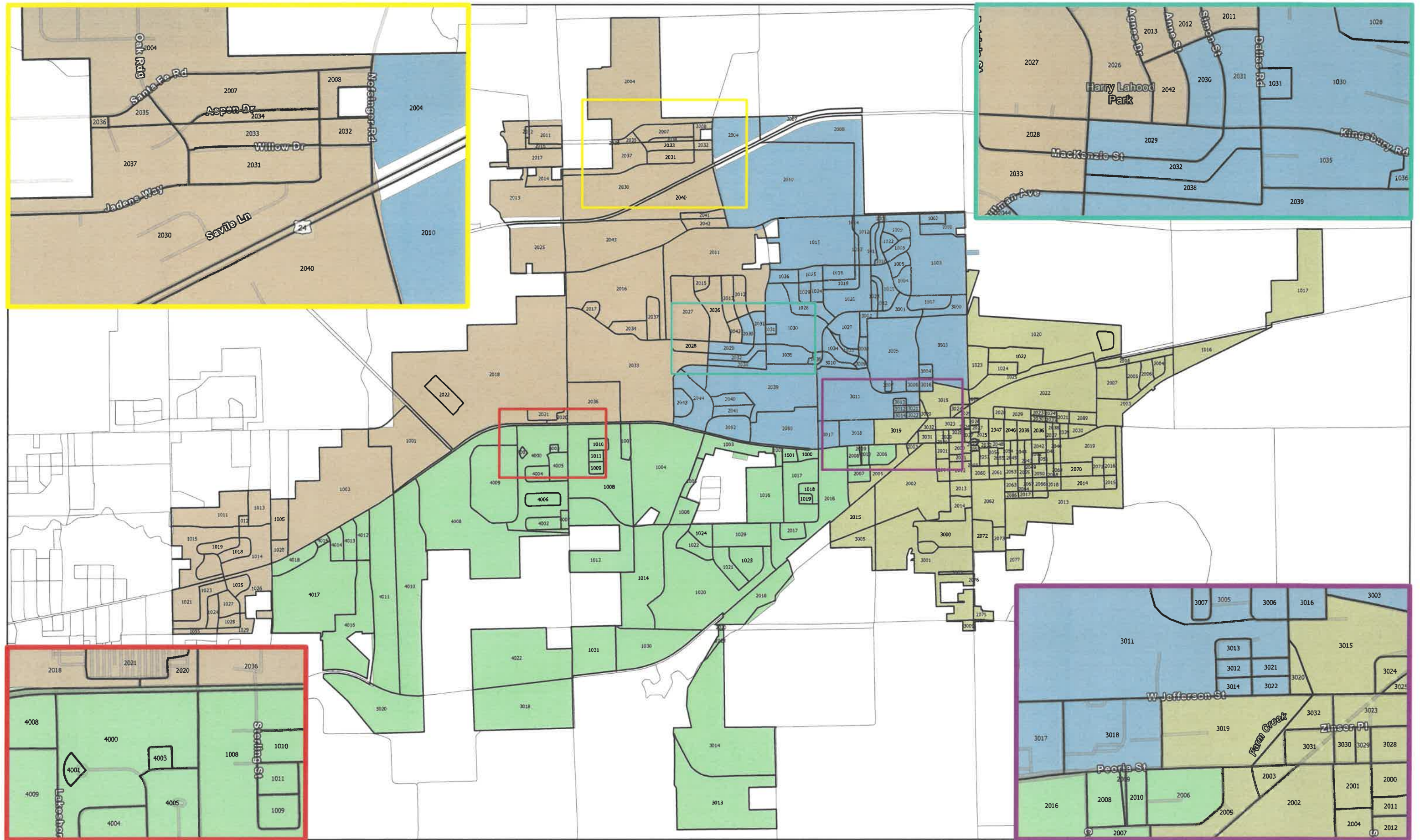
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City Boundary

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Ward I

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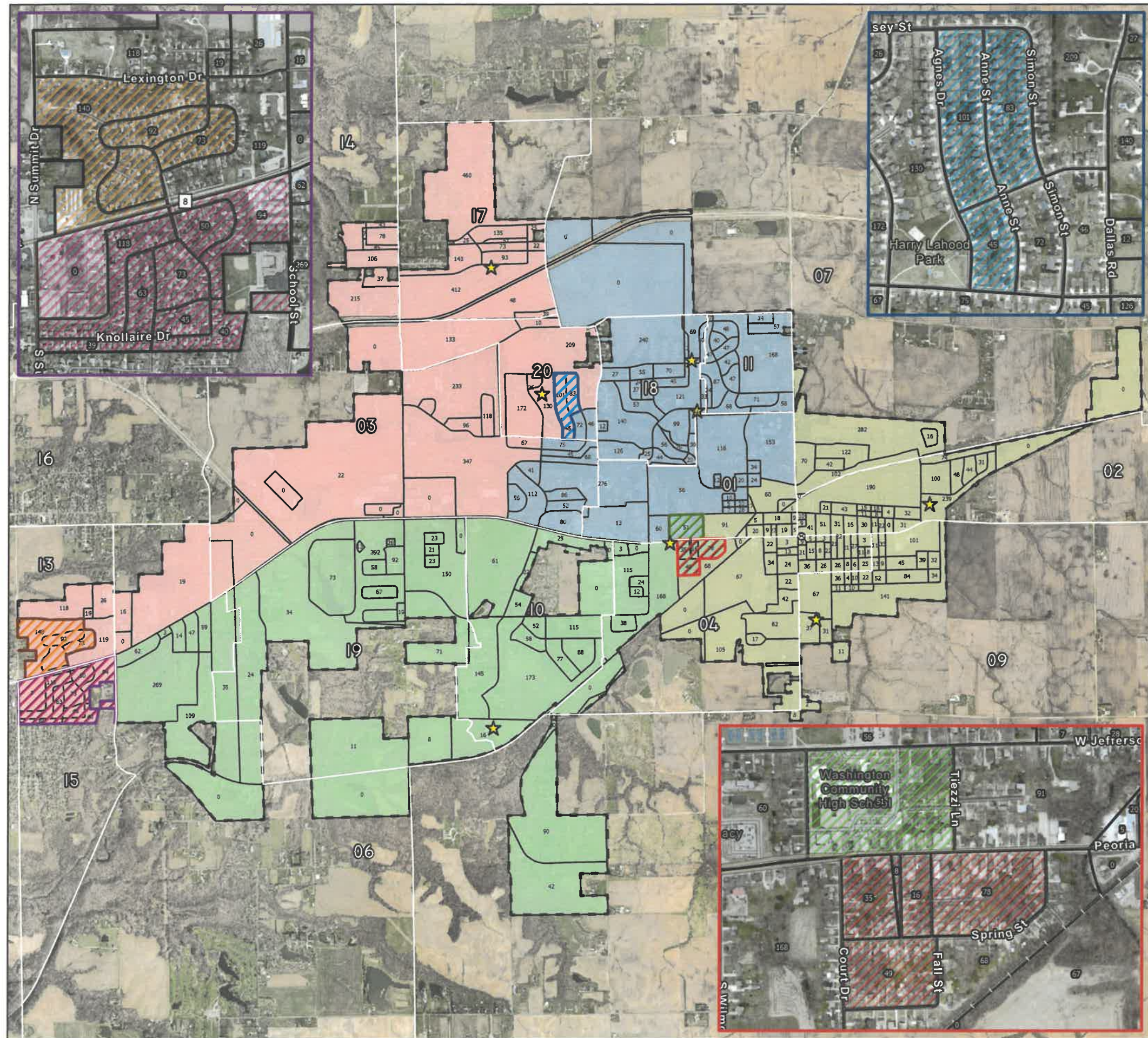
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Ward Redistricting Option 1

General Information

2020 Population: **16,031**
 Equal Ward Split Population: **4,008***
 Target Ward Pop. Range (2% variation): **3,928-4,088**

Ward Populations (as of 2020 Census)

Ward I: **3,859** | Ward II: **3,718** | Ward III: **3,334** | Ward IV: **5,120**

Ward	Pop. Change
Ward I:	Add 69-229
Ward II:	Add 210-370
Ward III:	Add 594-754
Ward IV:	Subtract 1,012-1,172

Update Description	Pop. Impact
Move areas west of School St/south of Rt. 8 to Ward III	502
Move block east of Bondurant/north of BR 24 to Ward II	51
Move blocks east of Anne/south of Kelsey to Ward I	229
Move most of Rolling Meadows North to Ward III	305
Move all blocks east of Court/south of BR 24 to Ward II	178

Ward Populations (after Ward Redistricting)

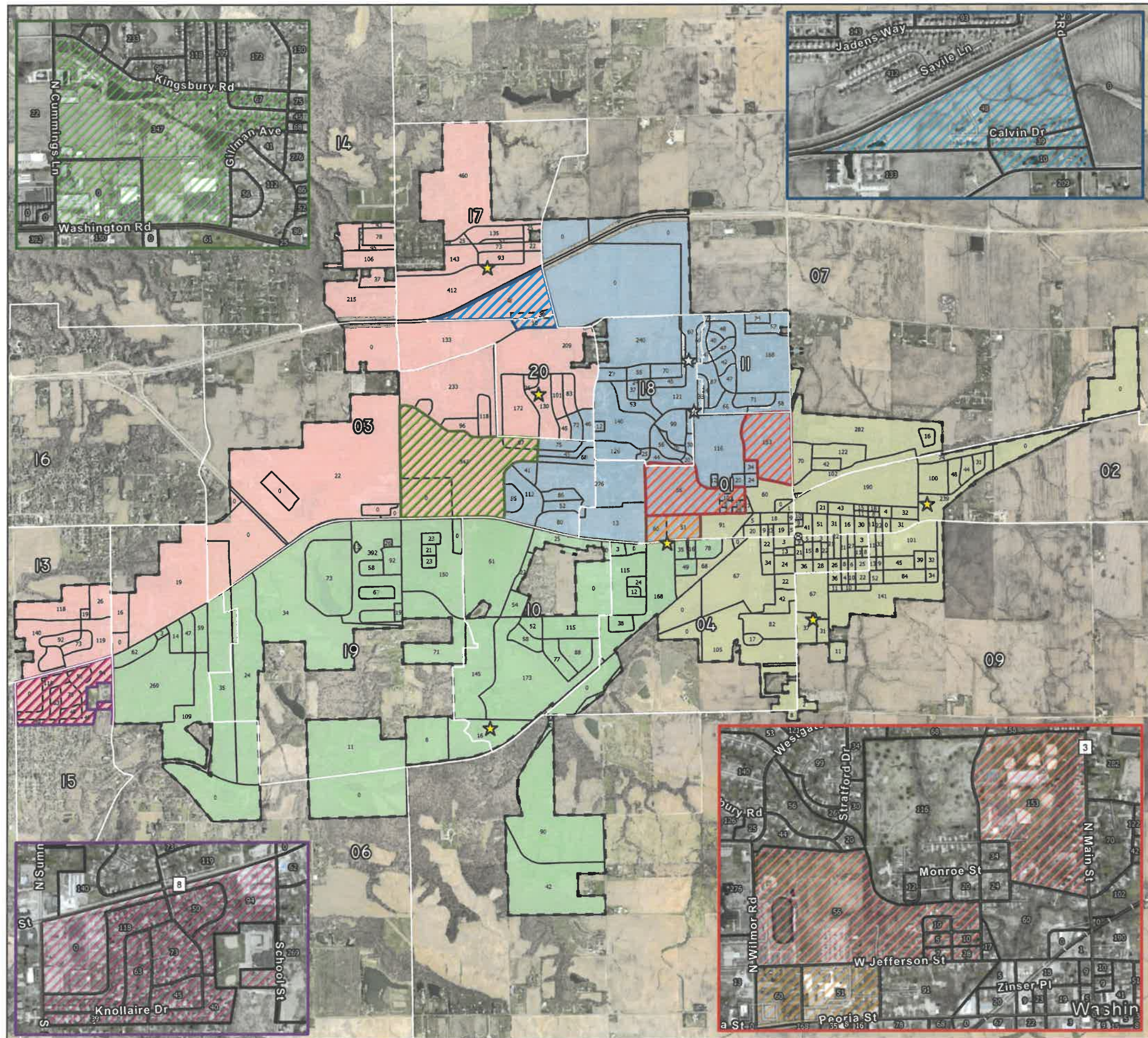
Ward I: **4,037** | Ward II: **3,947** | Ward III: **3,983** | Ward IV: **4,064**

*Note: Census blocks have a total population of 16,031

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- Alderman
- City Limits
- Census Blocks
- Ward I
- Ward II
- Ward III
- Ward IV
- Precincts



Ward Redistricting Option 2

General Information

2020 Population: **16,031**
Equal Ward Split Population: **4,008***
Target Ward Pop. Range (2% variation): **3,928-4,088**

Ward Populations (as of 2020 Census)

Ward I: **3,859** | Ward II: **3,718** | Ward III: **3,334** | Ward IV: **5,120**

Ward	Pop. Change
Ward I:	Add 69-229
Ward II:	Add 210-370
Ward III:	Add 594-754
Ward IV:	Subtract 1,012-1,172

Update Description	Pop. Impact
Move areas west of School St/south of Rt. 8 to Ward III	522
Move blocks south of Kingsbury/west of Cummings to Ward I	414
Move Cherry Pointe to Ward I	97
Move blocks east of Wilmor/west of Tiezzi to Ward III	111
Move blocks east of Wilmor/west of N. Main to Ward II	269

Ward Populations (after Ward Redistricting)

Ward I: **3,990** | Ward II: **3,987** | Ward III: **3,967** | Ward IV: **4,087**

*Note: Census blocks have a total population of 16,031

- Alderman
- City Limits
- Census Blocks
- Ward I
- Ward II
- Ward III
- Ward IV
- Precincts