REPRECINCTING

fair representation in local elections

OVERVIEW OF PRECINCT MAP ALTERNATIVES

GOALS

Limited Changes Map

1. Limit changes to precincts that became non-compliant with State regulations due to the 2020 Census population data and neighboring precincts to compensate for those changes
   a. Non-compliant precincts requiring changes include: 5, 8, 15, 16, 17
2. Limit changes to precincts that remain in compliance with State regulations
3. Adhere to the State's House Districts boundaries to avoid creating "split" districts

Recommended Changes Map

1. Limit changes to precincts that became non-compliant with State regulations due to the 2020 Census population data and neighboring precincts to compensate for those changes
   a. Non-compliant precincts requiring changes include: 5, 8, 15, 16, 17
2. Use 2020 Census Redistricting Race data, along with Household Income and Renter vs. Owner to identify areas where improvements to precincts could occur
3. Use existing geographic barriers / breaks, such as Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Minuteman Bikeway, and roads as guides for Precinct boundaries
4. Adhere to the State's House Districts boundaries to avoid creating "split" districts

OVERVIEW OF PRECINCT MAP ALTERNATIVES

Limited Changes Map
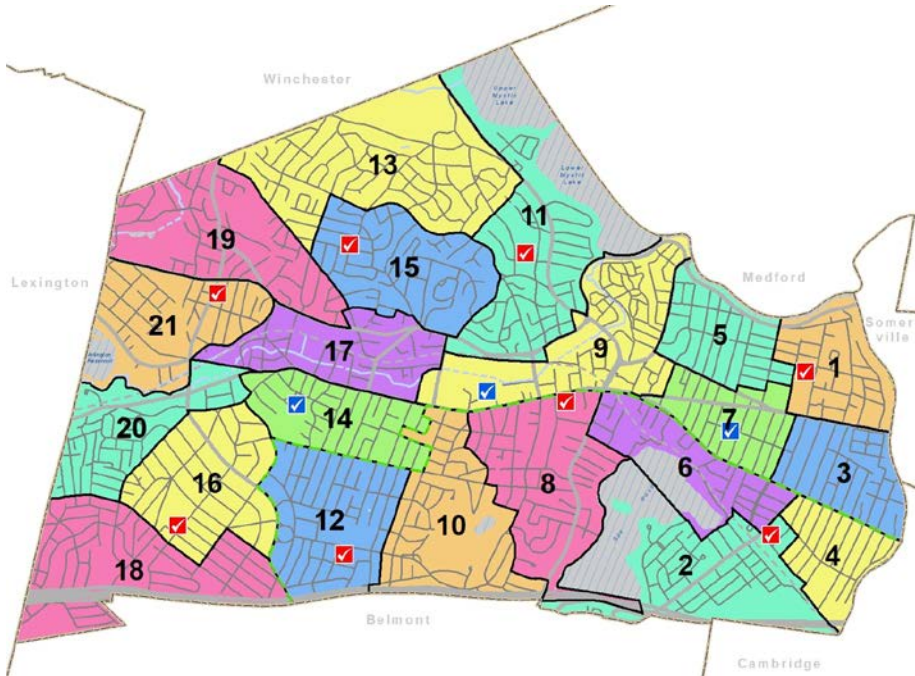
Recommended Changes Map
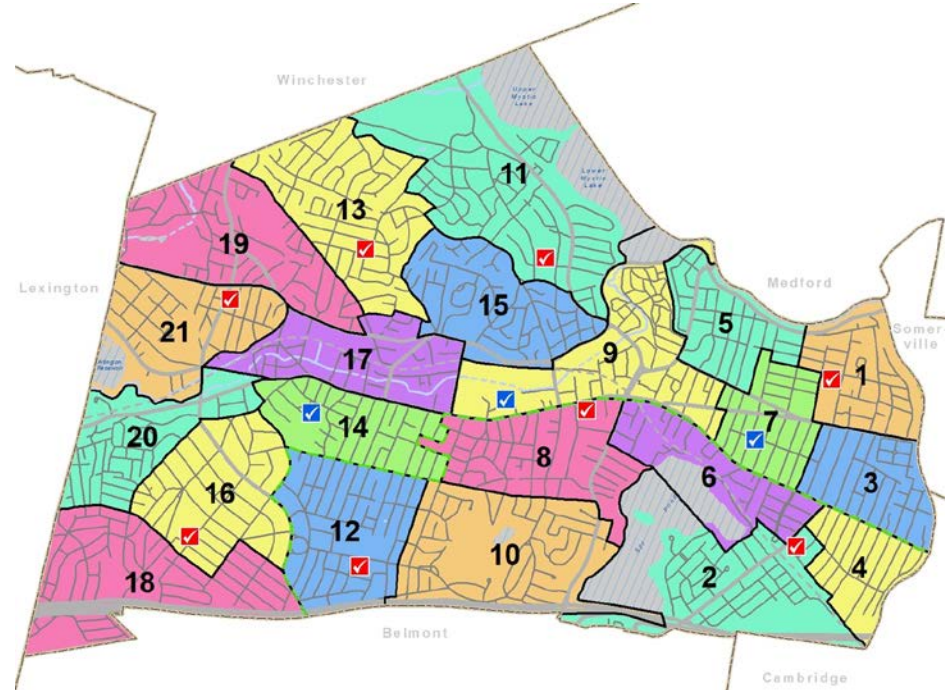
Limited Changes Map (10 precincts changed)

Precinct	Total Pop.	Deviation	White Pop.	% White	Non-white Pop.	% Non-white
1	2,099	-4.81	1,284	61.17	815	38.83
2	2,236	1.41	1,774	79.34	462	20.66
3	2,172	-1.50	1,750	80.57	422	19.43
4	2,101	-4.72	1,629	77.53	472	22.47
5	2,263	2.63	1,775	78.44	488	21.56
6	2,164	-1.86	1,605	74.17	559	25.83
7	2,297	4.17	1,656	72.09	641	27.91
8	2,125	-3.63	1,719	80.89	406	19.11
9	2,310	4.76	1,609	69.65	701	30.35
10	2,102	-4.67	1,665	79.21	437	20.79
11	2,305	4.54	1,834	79.57	471	20.43
12	2,305	4.54	1,872	81.21	433	18.79
13	2,186	-0.86	1,865	85.32	321	14.68
14	2,107	-4.44	1,568	74.42	539	25.58
15	2,313	4.90	1,696	73.32	617	26.68
16	2,140	-2.95	1,728	80.75	412	19.25
17	2,259	2.45	1,416	62.68	843	37.32
18	2,165	-1.81	1,669	77.09	496	22.91
19	2,141	-2.90	1,727	80.66	414	19.34
20	2,217	0.54	1,727	77.90	490	22.10
21	2,301	4.35	1,725	74.97	576	25.03

- 🟥 Non-compliant precinct and was changed
- 🟩 Precinct was changed to compensate for non-compliant precinct(s)

Recommended Changes Map (11 precincts changed)

Precinct	Total Pop.	Deviation	White Pop.	% White	Non-white Pop.	% Non-white
1	2,099	-4.81	1,284	61.17	815	38.83
2	2,236	1.41	1,774	79.34	462	20.66
3	2,172	-1.50	1,750	80.57	422	19.43
4	2,101	-4.72	1,629	77.53	472	22.47
5	2,268	2.86	1,825	80.47	443	19.53
6	2,164	-1.86	1,605	74.17	559	25.83
7	2,270	2.95	1,681	74.05	589	25.95
8	2,123	-3.72	1,668	78.57	455	21.43
9	2,287	3.72	1,504	65.76	783	34.24
10	2,104	-4.58	1,716	81.56	388	18.44
11	2,303	4.44	1,901	82.54	402	17.46
12	2,305	4.54	1,872	81.21	433	18.79
13	2,275	3.17	1,809	79.52	466	20.48
14	2,107	-4.44	1,568	74.42	539	25.58
15	2,219	0.63	1,683	75.84	536	24.16
16	2,140	-2.95	1,728	80.75	412	19.25
17	2,311	4.81	1,448	62.66	863	37.34
18	2,165	-1.81	1,669	77.09	496	22.91
19	2,141	-2.90	1,727	80.66	414	19.34
20	2,217	0.54	1,727	77.90	490	22.10
21	2,301	4.35	1,725	74.97	576	25.03

- 🟥 Non-compliant precinct and was changed
- 🟩 Precinct was changed to compensate for non-compliant precinct(s)

Changes to these precincts are the same on both maps

Precincts in red were changed and are now compliant; Precincts in green geographically border the precincts that must change and were changed to help bring the red precincts into compliance

DESCRIPTION OF PRECINCT CHANGES

Limited Changes Map

DESCRIPTION OF PRECINCT CHANGES

Limited Changes Map

1. Minimal changes to the five precincts that are out of compliance: 5, 8, 15, 16, 17
2. Five more bordering precincts change to balance population
3. Adhere to the State's House Districts boundaries to avoid creating "split" districts

Required Precinct Changes

- A precinct greater than 5 or less than -5 in the Deviation column (highlighted in red) are non-compliant and requires change

- In order to bring precincts in red into compliance, neighboring precincts also will require change

| Precinct	Total Pop.	Deviation	White Pop.	% White	Non-white Pop.	% Non-white
1	2,099	-4.81	1,284	61.17	815	38.83
2	2,236	1.41	1,774	79.34	462	20.66
3	2,172	-1.50	1,750	80.57	422	19.43
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5	2,068	-6.21	1,614	78.05	454	21.95
6	2,164	-1.86	1,605	74.17	559	25.83
7	2,229	1.09	1,596	71.60	633	28.40
8	2,008	-8.93	1,639	81.62	369	18.38
9	2,227	1.00	1,635	73.42	592	26.58
10	2,219	0.63	1,745	78.64	474	21.36
11	2,121	-3.81	1,711	80.67	410	19.33
12	2,305	4.54	1,872	81.21	433	18.79
13	2,186	-0.86	1,865	85.32	321	14.68
14	2,107	-4.44	1,568	74.42	539	25.58
15	2,532	14.83	1,862	73.54	670	26.46
16	2,058	-6.67	1,678	81.54	380	18.46
17	2,570	16.55	1,568	61.01	1,002	38.99
18	2,241	1.63	1,719	76.71	522	23.29
19	2,138	-3.04	1,727	80.78	411	19.22
20	2,217	0.54	1,727	77.90	490	22.10
21	2,301	4.35	1,725	74.97	576	25.03

Non-compliant precinct and requires change

PRECINCT 5*

1. Area 1 bounded by Medford, Jean, Franklin, and Warren Sts was changed from P9 to P5
   a. Two blocks were shifted; Medford St serves as a dividing line
   b. Compensates for the needed population shift in P9, 11, 13, 15, and 17

2. Area 2 bounded by Warren St, River St, Amherst St and Rawson Rd was changed from P5 to P7
   a. Compensates for the needed population shift in P5
   b. One other block could have been shifted: it is bounded by Everett St, University Rd, River St, and Ernest Rd. This change would have created a longer distance to a polling location.
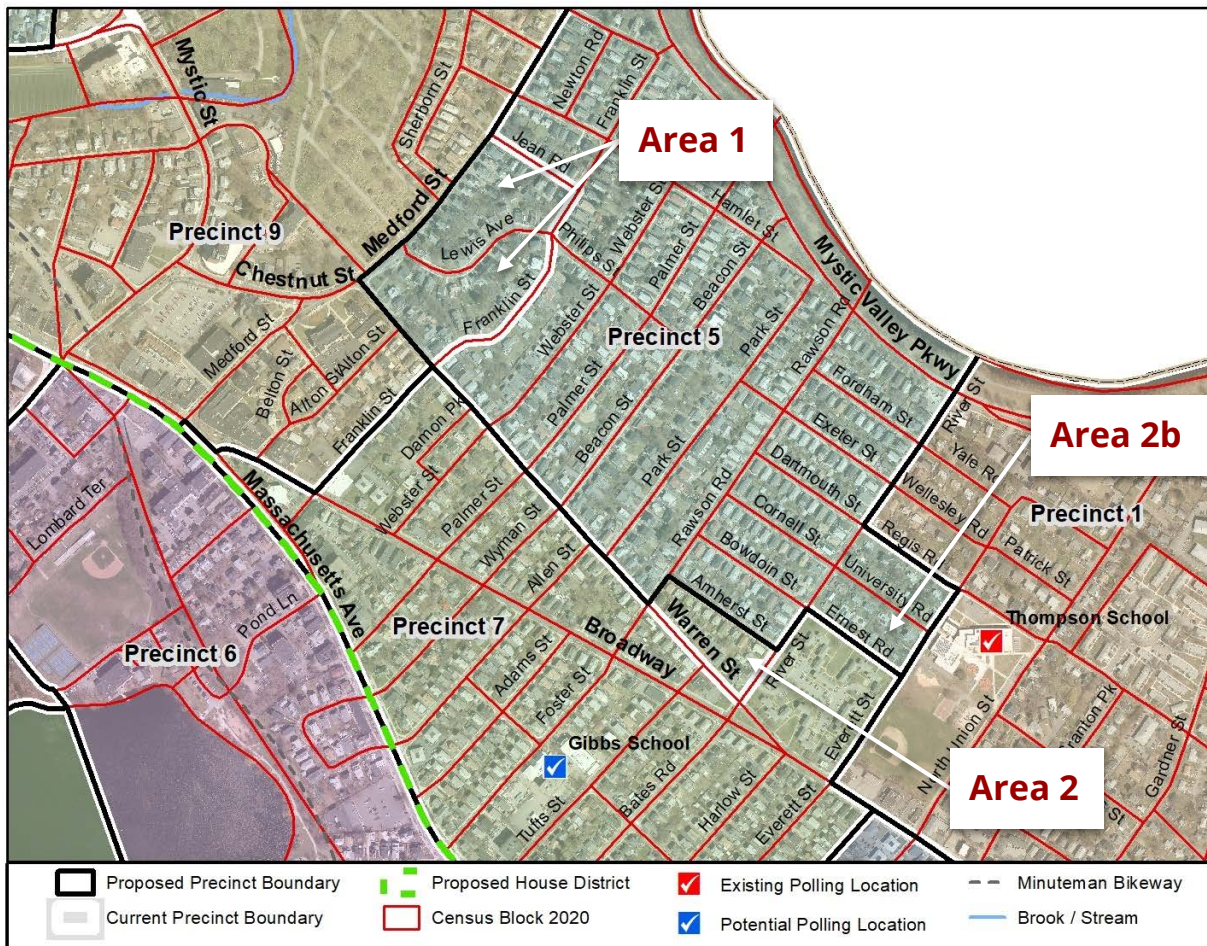
Limited Changes Map

* Changes required due to Census figures.

# PRECINCT 8*, 15*, & 17*

1. Area 1 changes from P15 to P17
   a. P15 required smaller population; new boundary shifts three blocks to accomplish this
   b. Corresponding changes made to P17
2. Area 2 changes from P17/P9 to P11
   a. Two blocks adjusted to compensate for other required changes to P17
   b. Minuteman Bikeway used as a boundary; all Summer St addresses in this area added to P11
3. Area 3 changes from P11 to P9
   a. Population shift was required to bring P9 and P11 into compliance and impact the least population
4. Area 4 changes from P17 to P9
   a. P17 required smaller population; new boundary shifts five blocks including Brigham's, Mass Ave properties, and an apartment complex and other units on Grove St
   b. These areas are similar in demographics and housing type to the rest of P9
5. Area 5 changes from P10 to P8
   a. P8 required larger population; new boundary shifts three blocks from P10 to P8
   b. Boundaries do not cross Mass Ave and comply with the House District boundary in dashed green

Limited Changes Map

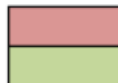* Changes required due to Census figures.
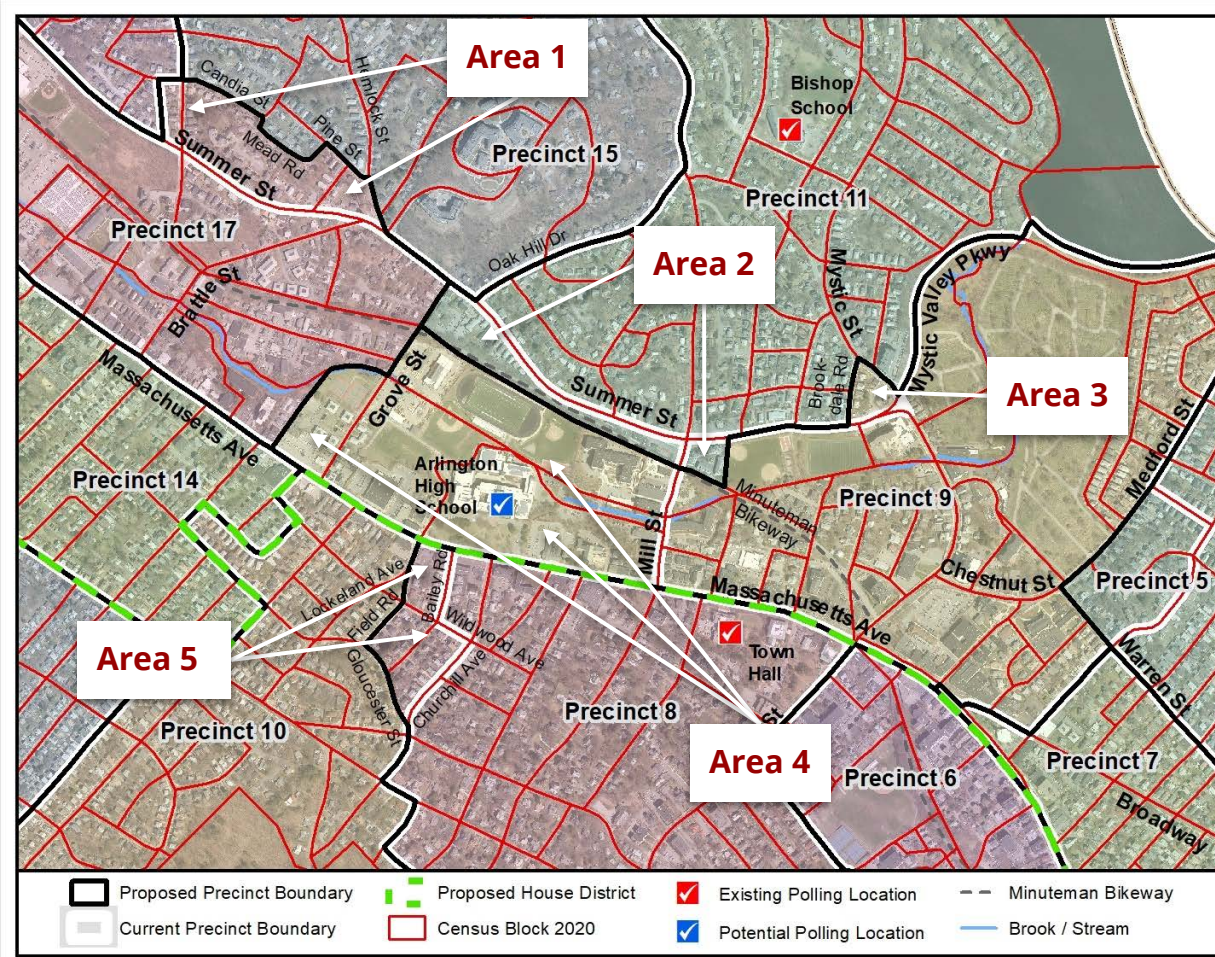
PRECINCT 16*

1. Area 1 bounded by Florence Ave, Rhinecliff St, Oakland Ave, and George St is changed from P18 to P16
   a. P16 required more population to bring it into compliance and P18 could "give" population and remain in compliance.
   b. One or two other Block(s) along Waverly St could have been changed instead.
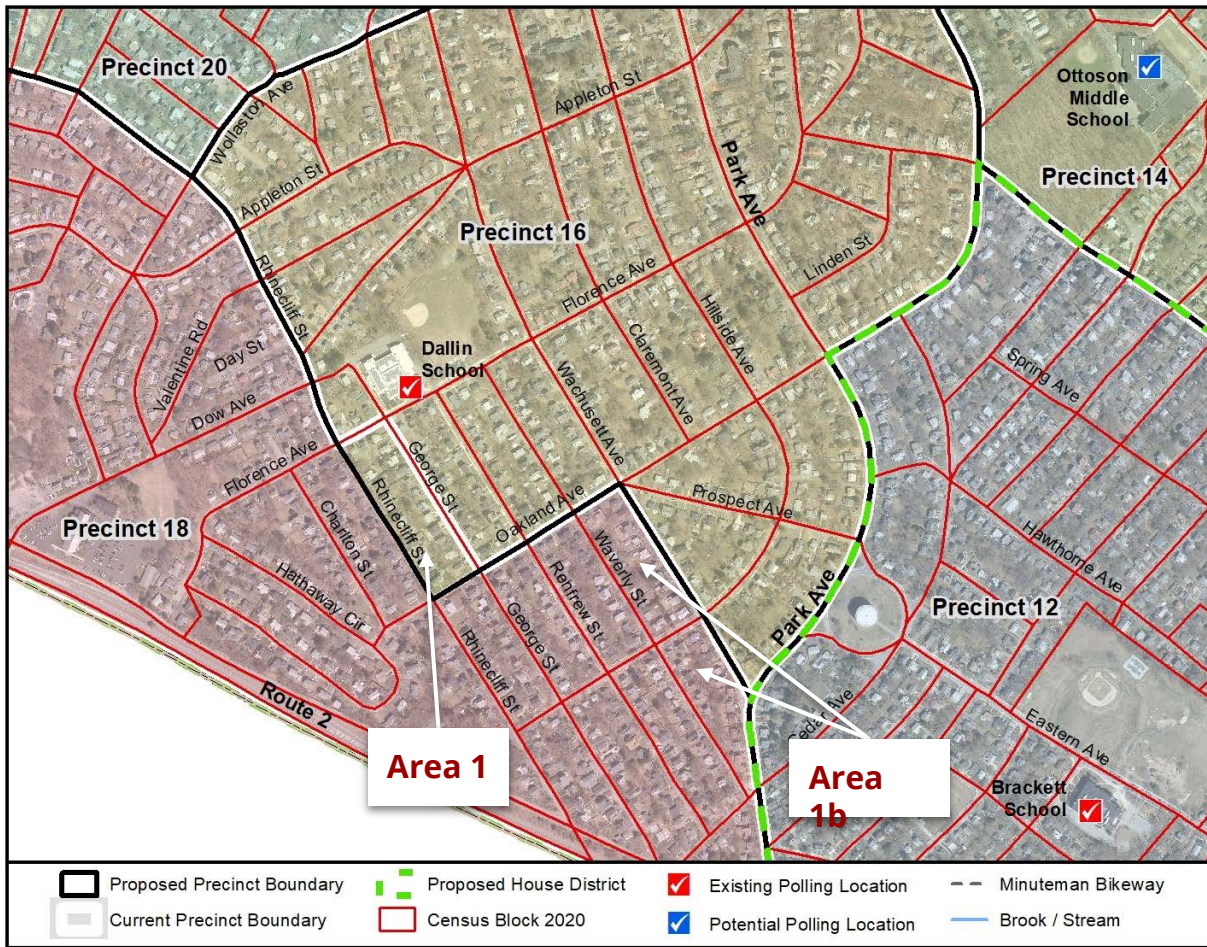
Proposed Precinct Changes

- Precincts in red were changed and are now compliant

- Precincts in green geographically border the precincts that must change and were changed to help bring the red precincts into compliance

Precinct	Total Pop.	Deviation	White Pop.	% White	Non-white Pop.	% Non-white
1	2,099	-4.81	1,284	61.17	815	38.83
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12	2,305	4.54	1,872	81.21	433	18.79
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20	2,217	0.54	1,727	77.90	490	22.10
21	2,301	4.35	1,725	74.97	576	25.03

Non-compliant precinct and was changed

Precinct was changed to compensate for non-compliant precinct(s)

Limited Changes Map

Summary of Limited Change Impacts

- A limited change model that solves only for population totals and maintains the House District boundary to avoid splitting precincts changes a total of 10 precincts.

- This model maintains some precincts like P11 that have unusual shapes or precincts like P8 and P10 that range from Mass Ave to Route 2 and encompass a wider range of demographic groups.

- Voters from 11 census blocks have their polling location changed. Changes that increase distance to a polling location could likely be addressed by adjusting polling locations over time.

DESCRIPTION OF PRECINCT CHANGES

Recommended Changes Map

DESCRIPTION OF PRECINCT CHANGES

Recommended Changes Map

1. Several precincts are redrawn to better align with neighboring precincts, natural neighborhood boundaries or school district lines
2. Other precincts have more modest changes along the borders so the new precincts have more unified characteristics
3. Adhere to the State's House District boundaries to avoid creating "split" districts

Re-thinking "natural neighborhoods"

- Precincts that run from Mass Ave to a border with a neighboring municipality tend to include a wide range of housing types and incomes. However, when reviewing data we can see that Town Meeting Members are not always well-dispersed through those precincts, raising the question of how well-represented all residents are in our local government.

- Our recommended precincts adjust some of the lines so that residents in the redrawn precincts are more likely to share demographic characteristics. The intent is to increase the likelihood that Town Meeting Members will come from the full range of neighborhoods.

- We limited this as much as possible and only changed one more precinct than the limited change map. It's not a perfect or complete solution and it would have been easier with fewer precincts. Nevertheless, we recommend taking steps when we have the data and the opportunity.

Required Precinct Changes

- A precinct greater than 5 or less than -5 in the Deviation column (highlighted in red) are non-compliant and requires change

- In order to bring precincts in red into compliance, neighboring precincts also will require change

Precinct	Total Pop.	Deviation	White Pop.	% White	Non-white Pop.	% Non-white
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20	2,217	0.54	1,727	77.90	490	22.10
21	2,301	4.35	1,725	74.97	576	25.03

Non-compliant precinct and requires change

Recommended Changes Map

East Arlington

- Precinct 5 needs to gain population. In this map P5 now includes the Webcowet Rd neighborhood, which is a Thompson School neighborhood and similar to the other neighborhoods in P5.

- To accommodate the entire Webcowet neighborhood in P5, 7 blocks from P5 shift to P7. Precinct 7 becomes a fully East Arlington area; before it extended more toward the center.

- Precinct 9, like P17, is more defined by its proximity to Mass Ave and the higher population density in the center of town.

Precinct 5*

1. Area 1 changes blocks east of Mt Pleasant Cemetery from P9 to P5
   a. Shifts ten blocks and moves the Webcowet Rd area into P5
   b. This change compensates for the population shift in P7, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 17

2. Area 2 changes from P5 to P7
   a. This change compensates for population shift of the Webcowet Rd area

3. Area 3 changes from P7 to P9
   a. Compensates for changes mentioned above and the required changes to P5 mentioned above and in P17

Recommended Changes Map

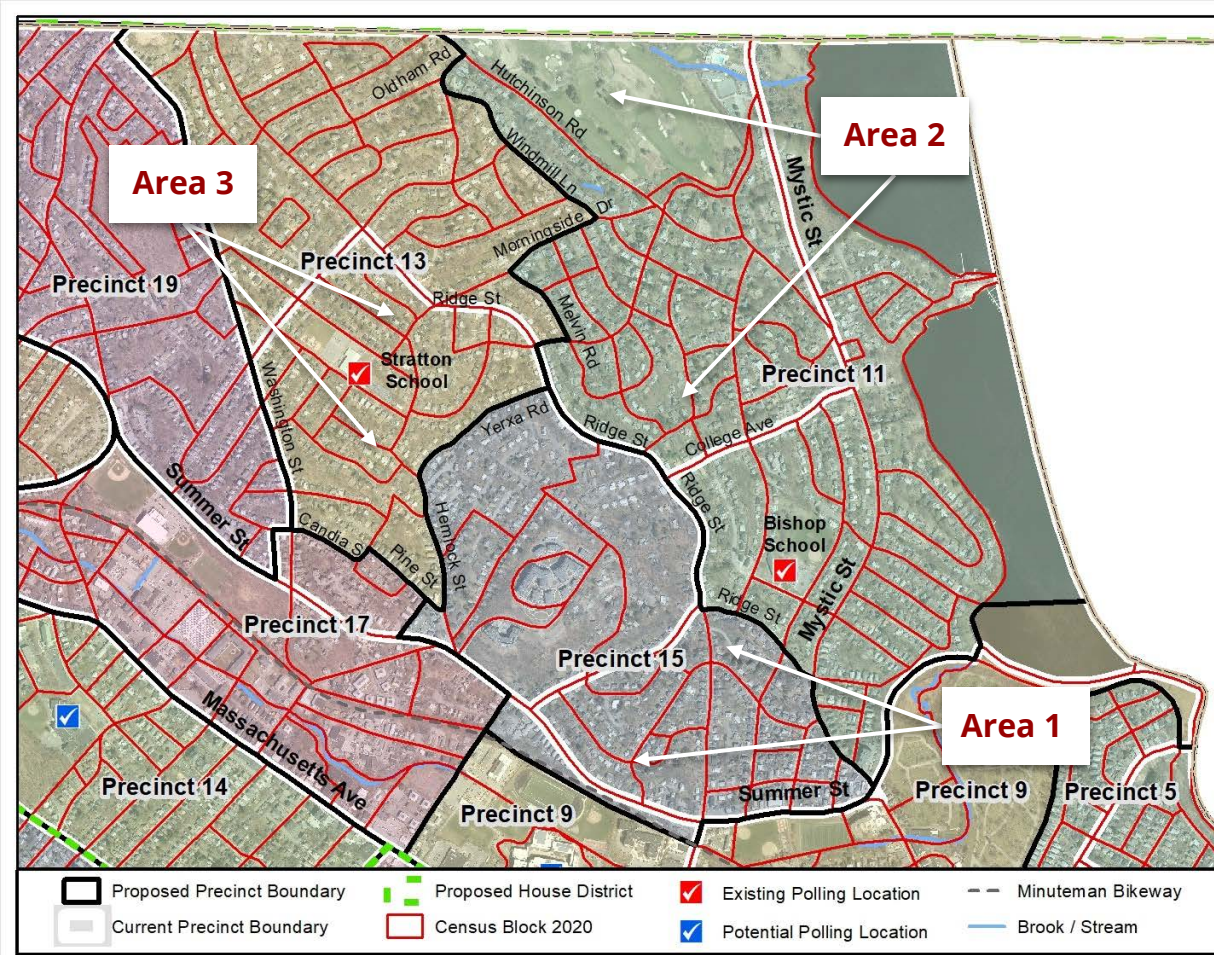* Changes required due to Census figures.
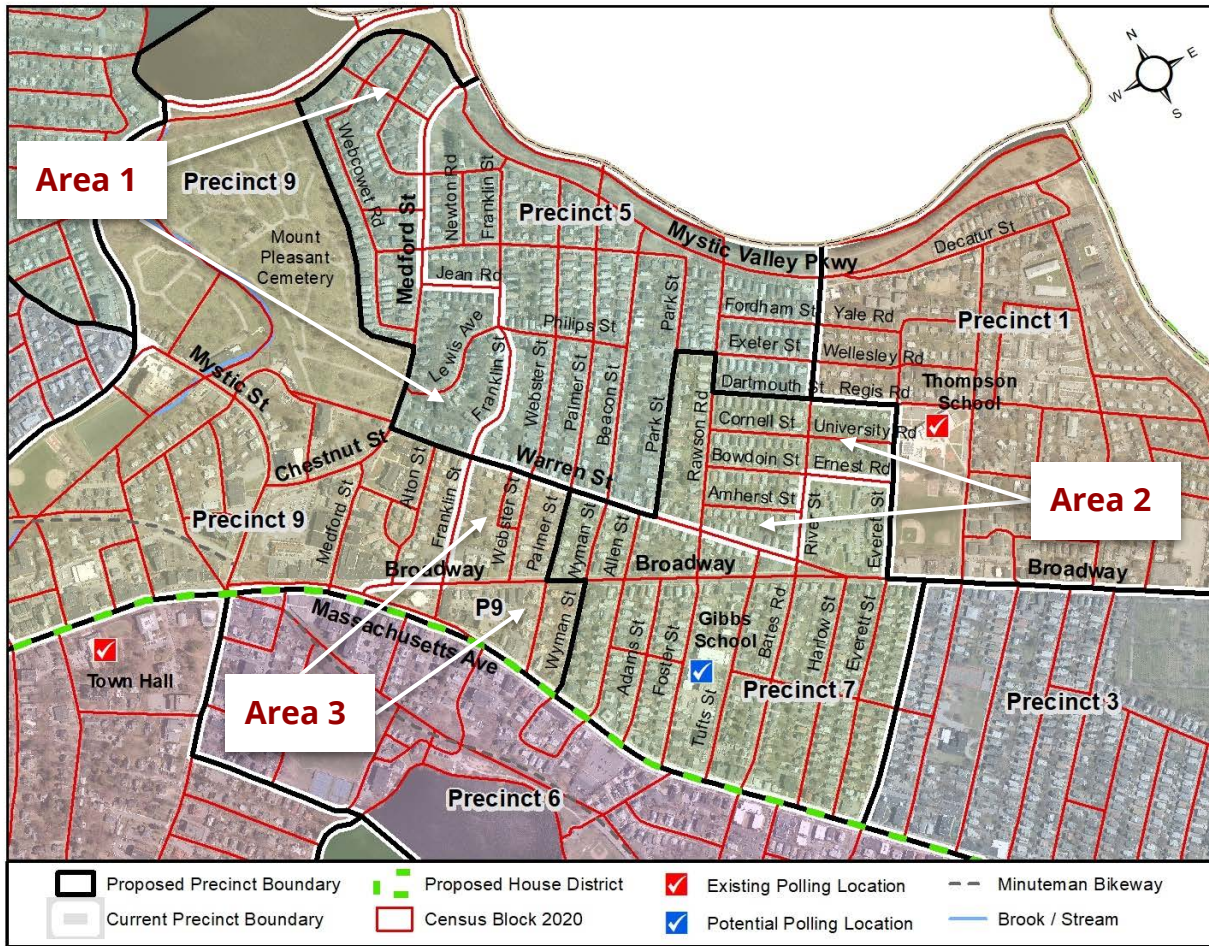
Arlington Center and Precincts 11, 13, and 15

- The approach is different from the limited change map in two ways.

- Precinct 15 had to lose population, but in this model we shift blocks from several nearby precincts and create a very different P15 that is a transition zone between the Mass Ave corridor neighborhoods and the single-family neighborhoods to the north. Ridge St provides a useful guide for a new border.

- Precincts 11 and 13 are now largely single-family homes with similar demographics. The boundary line between the two precincts is similar to the Bishop / Stratton Elementary school buffer zone boundary, so it should feel natural to residents in that way.
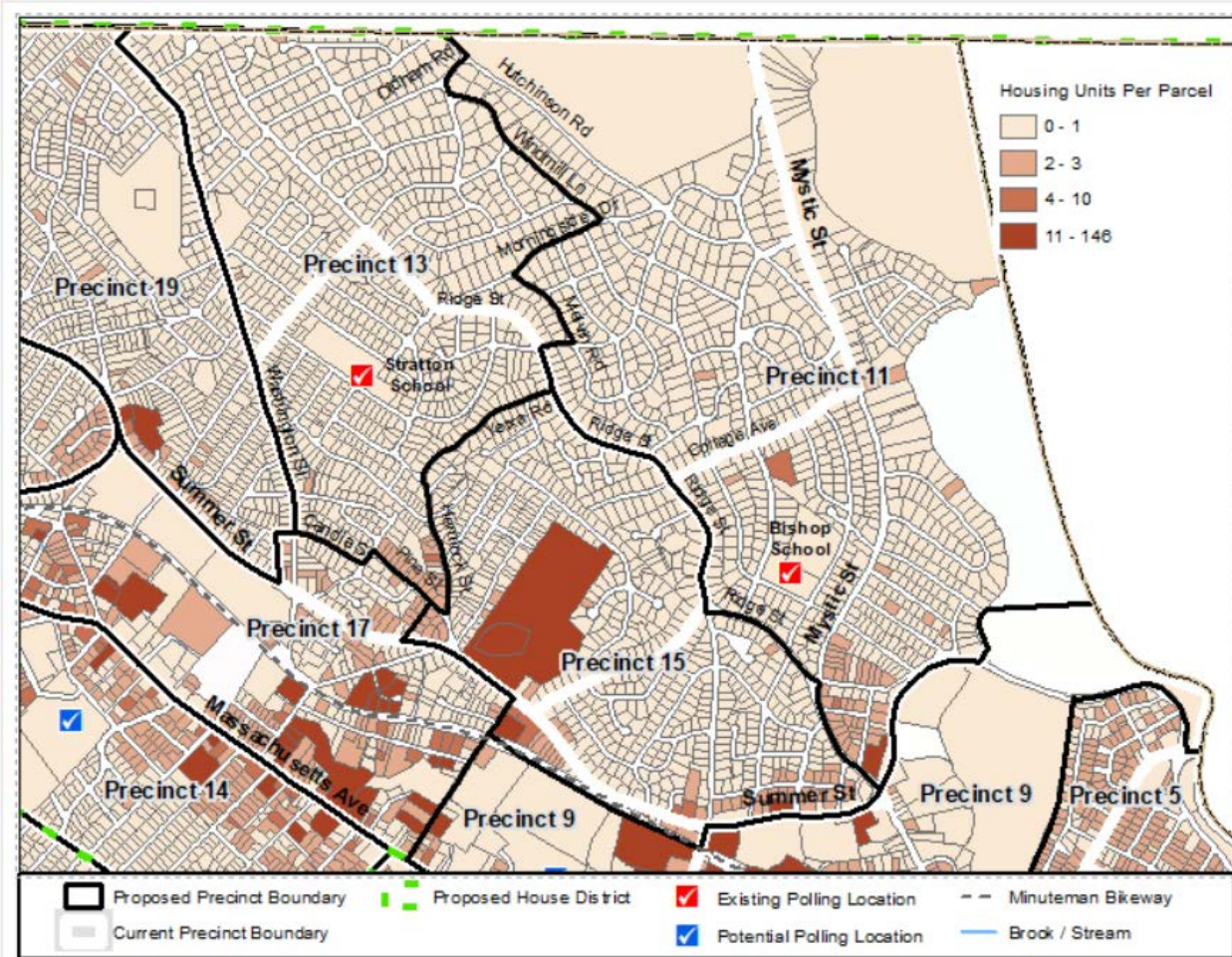
PRECINCT 11*, 13*, 15*

1. Area 1 changes from P11 to P15
   a. All Blocks bounded by Oak Hill Ave, Summer St, Mystic St, and Ridge St are shifted from P11 to P15
   b. Census block along Summer St keeps residents on both sides in the precinct.
   c. Race, income, and renter vs owner data was referenced to create this new boundary for P15

2. Area 2 changes from P13 to P11
   a. All Blocks between College Ave, Mystic St, the Winchester townline, and a series of roads north of Ridge St are shifted from P13 to P11
   b. Race, income, and renter vs owner data was referenced to create this new boundary for P11

3. Area 3 changes from P15 to P13
   a. All Blocks in this area surrounding Stratton School are shifted from P 15 to P13.
   b. Race, income, and renter vs owner data was referenced to create this new boundary for P13

Recommended Changes Map

* Changes required due to Census figures.

2021 ASSESSOR DATA
Housing Units Per Parcel

Housing Units Per Parcel
- 0 - 1
- 2 - 3
- 4 - 10
- 11 - 146

Recommended Changes Map

Arlington Center and Precincts 8, 9 and 17

- After redrawing Precinct 15, adjustments are needed to P9 and P17 to rebalance population.

- Precinct 9 now runs along Mass Ave like P17 and the demographic profile is very similar to P17: a higher-density, more urban-style precinct.

- Precinct 8 needs to gain population, however in this map we considered housing and income data, and recommend carrying the existing pattern for P12 and P14 over to P8 and P10. Gray Street makes a natural dividing line and the two newly drawn precincts are each more homogenous.
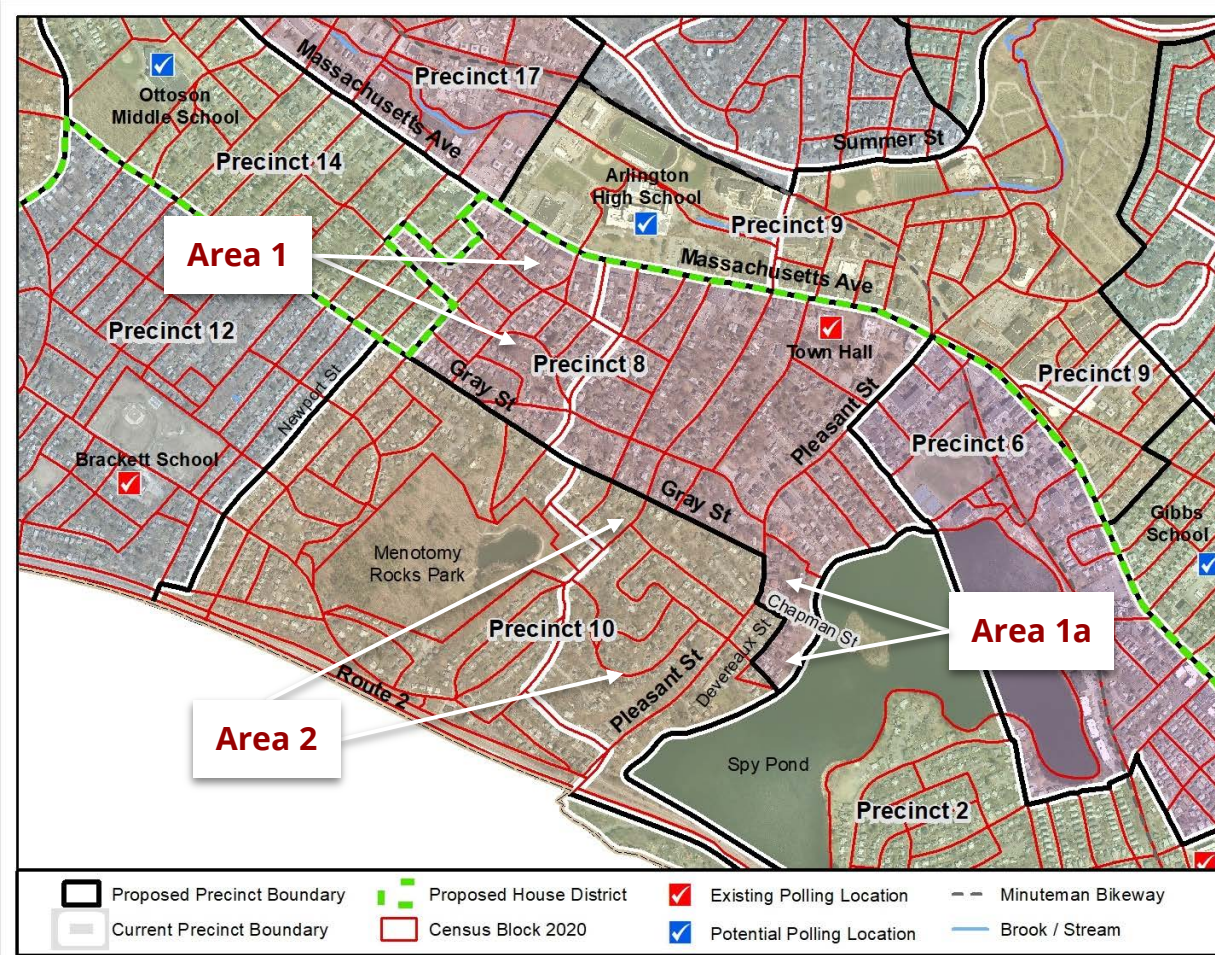
Recommended Changes Map

Precinct 8*, 9, & 17*

1. Area 1 changes from P15 to P17
   a. Shifts three blocks as P15 required smaller population
   b. Coincides with shifts in P17

2. Area 2 changes from P17 to P15
   a. Shifts one block to compensate for other required changes to P17
   b. Uses Minuteman Bikeway as a boundary

3. Area 3 changes from P7 to P9
   a. Previously shown on the Precinct 5 slide

4. Area 4 changes from P17 to P9
   a. P17 required smaller population; five blocks including Brigham's, Mass Ave properties, and units on Grove St were shifted to accomplish this
   b. These areas are similar in demographics and housing type to the rest of P9

5. Area 5 changes to P10 and P8
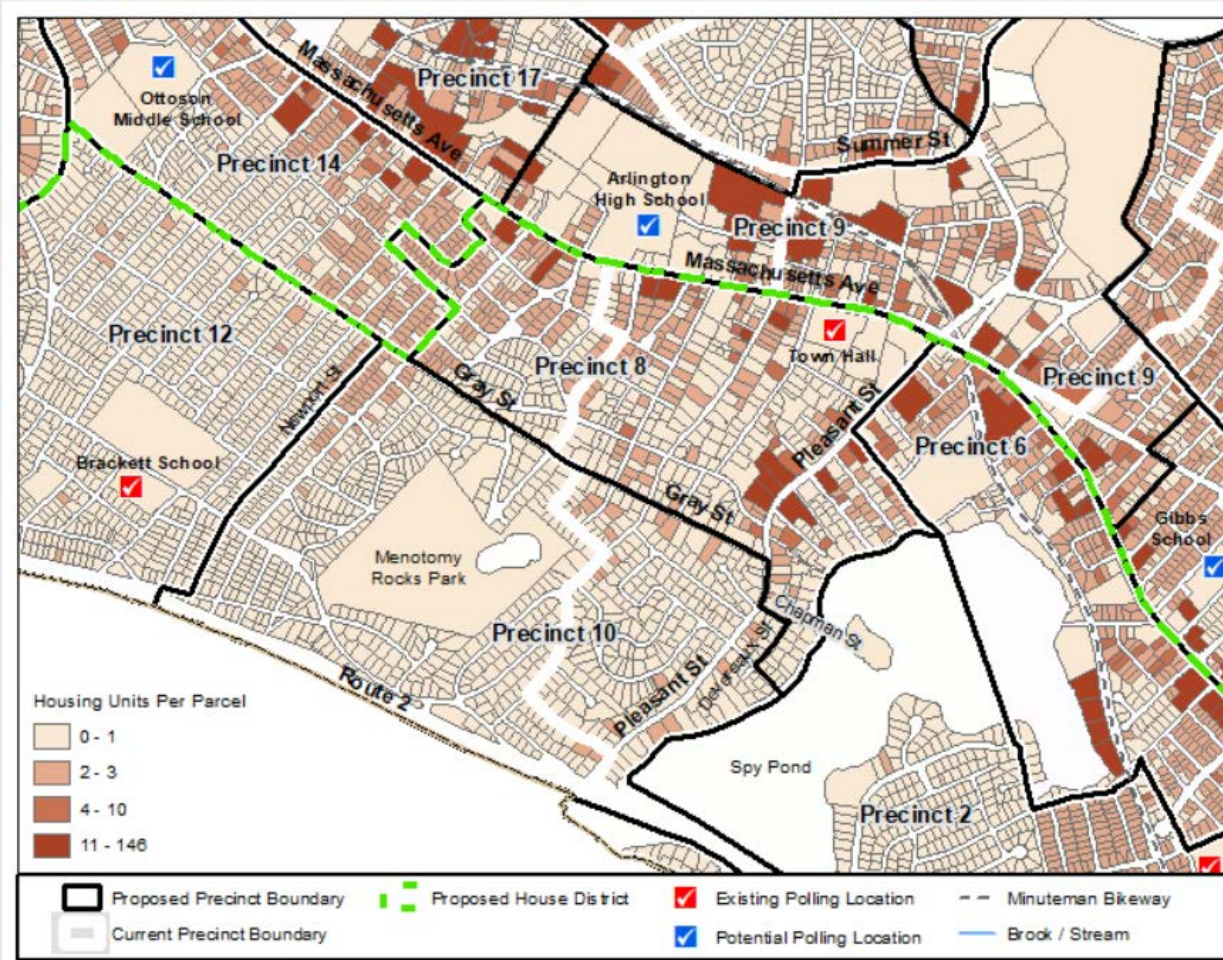   a. P8 and P10 are shown in more detail on the next page

Recommended Changes Map

* Changes required due to Census figures.
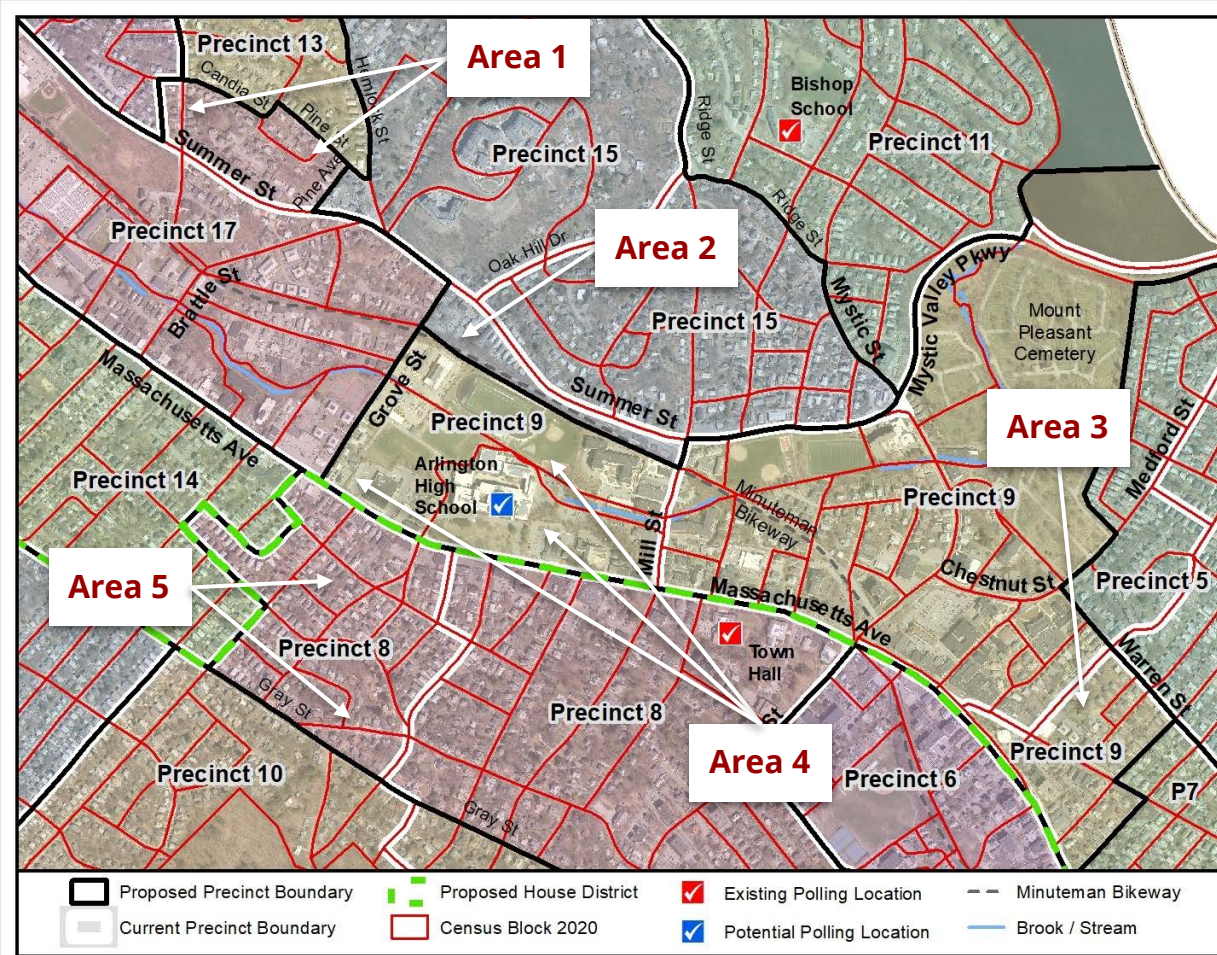
Precinct 8* & 10*

1. Area 1 changes from P10 to P8
   a. All blocks between Gray St and Mass. Ave, including one block bounded by Pleasant St, Chapman St, Devereaux St, and Spy Pond, are shifted from P10 to P8
   b. Race, income, and tenure data informed this new boundary for P8
   c. Gray St is a more logical boundary than the existing boundary

2. Area 2 changes from P8 to P10
   a. All blocks between Gray St and Route 2 are shifted from P8 to P10
   b. Race, income, and tenure data informed this new boundary for P8
   c. Gray St is a more logical divide than the existing boundary

Recommended Changes Map

* Changes required due to Census figures.

2021 ASSESSOR DATA
Housing Units Per Parcel

Housing Units Per Parcel

- 0 - 1
- 2 - 3
- 4 - 10
- 11 - 146

Proposed Precinct Boundary · Proposed House District · Existing Polling Location · Minuteman Bikeway

Current Precinct Boundary · Potential Polling Location · Brook / Stream
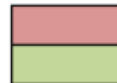
Recommended Changes Map

PRECINCT 16*

1. Area 1 bounded by Florence Ave, Rhinecliff St, Oakland Ave, and George St is shifted from P18 to P16
   a. P16 required more population to bring it into compliance and P18 could "give" population and remain in compliance
   b. One or two other Block(s) along Waverly St could have been changed instead

Recommended Changes Map

* Changes required due to Census figures.
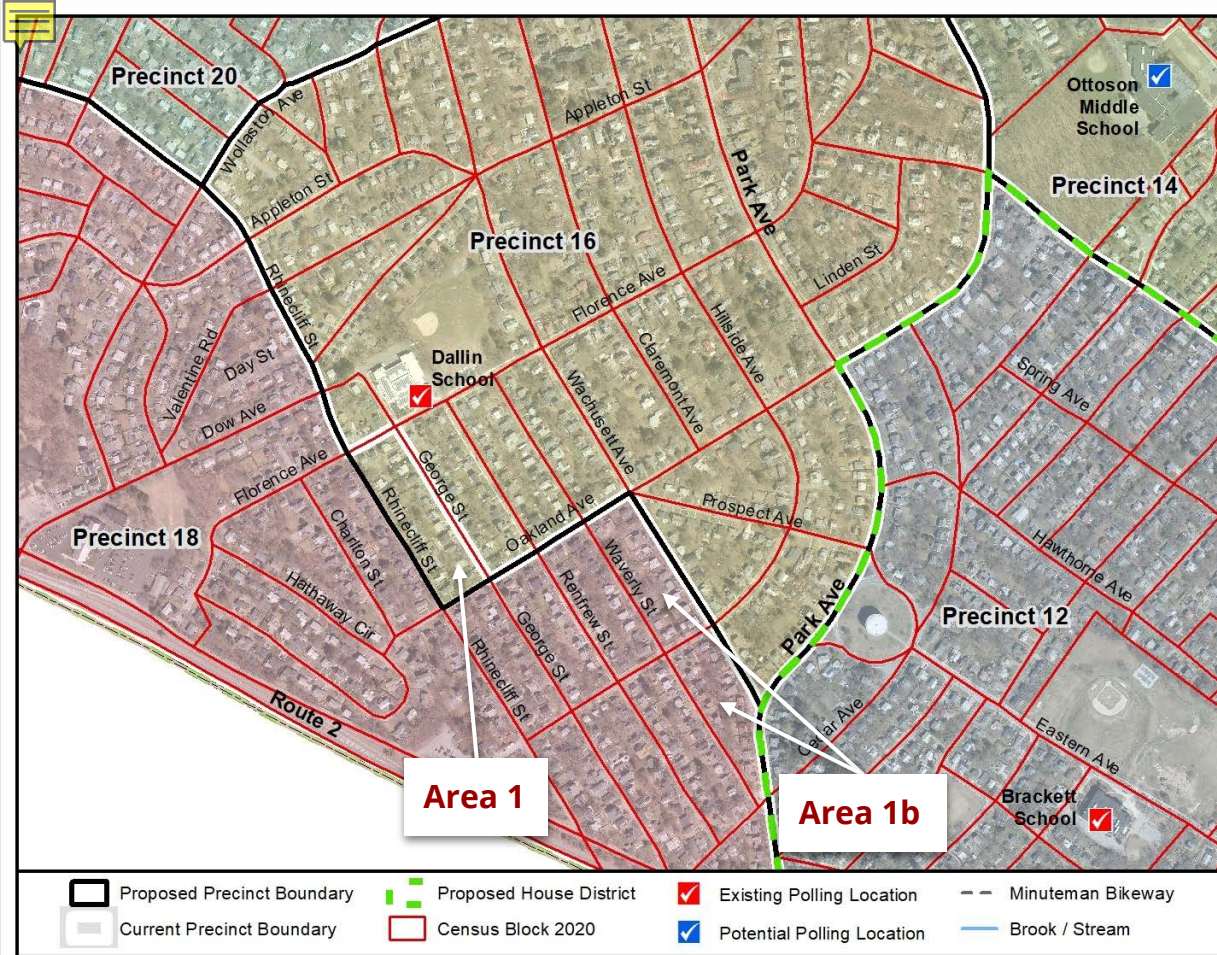
Proposed Precinct Changes

- Precincts in red were changed and are now compliant

- Precincts in green geographically border the precincts that must change and were changed to help bring the red precincts into compliance

- Only Precinct 13 was additionally changed when compared to the Limited Change version

Precinct	Total Pop.	Deviation	White Pop.	% White	Non-white Pop.	% Non-white
1	2,099	-4.81	1,284	61.17	815	38.83
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10	2,104	-4.58	1,716	81.56	388	18.44
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20	2,217	0.54	1,727	77.90	490	22.10
21	2,301	4.35	1,725	74.97	576	25.03

Non-compliant precinct and was changed

Precinct was changed to compensate for non-compliant precinct(s)

Recommended Changes Map

Summary of Recommended Map Impacts

- The recommended changes impact 11 precincts.

- The goal was to construct precincts that better reflect neighborhood characteristics based on data about race, household income, housing type, and/or density. Substantial changes were made to 5 precincts (8, 10, 11, 13 and 15) to achieve these goals. Precincts 9 and 17 were adjusted somewhat to recognize the impact of the Mass Ave Corridor on their residents.

- Voters from several neighborhoods have their polling location changed. The changes that increase distance to a polling location could likely be addressed by adjusting polling locations over time.