City of Gainesville Citizen Election District Review Committee

Susan Bottcher, Chair David Price, Vice-Chair Jennifer Gresley Juanita Miles Hamilton

Crystal Goodison Beverly Hill Jasmeet Judge

TO:

MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION

DATE: July 2, 2009

FROM:

SUSAN BOTTCHER, CHAIR

Citizen Election District Review Committee

SUBJECT:

Review of City Commission Election Districts (B)

Recommendation: The City Commission: 1) receive a report from the Citizen Election District Review Committee and City Consultant Kenneth D. Wald, Ph.D; 2) approve the Committee's recommendation to postpone redistricting until receipt of the 2010 census data; and 3) authorize the dissolution of the Committee.

The Citizen Election District Review Committee (Committee) held its first meeting on May 27, 2009. During this meeting, the Committee heard a presentation from the City's Consultant, Kenneth D. Wald, Ph.D, who provided an overview of the redistricting process for the City of Gainesville, legal standards governing redistricting, the Committee's potential options for redistricting in 2009, and possible complications related to a mid-census review of the election districts (Exhibit 1).

On June 15, 2009, the Committee held its second meeting and heard presentations from Pam Carpenter, the Alachua County Supervisor of Elections, and Dr. Wald. Ms. Carpenter provided the Committee with the 2009-2010 Elections Office calendar (Exhibit 2). Additionally, she expressed her concerns regarding anticipated labor constraints and costs associated with redistricting City election districts in 2009 (three years prior to her Office's plan to reapportion precincts) based on the 2009-2010 calendar, which includes time intensive petition verification, file maintenance, and other duties imposed by law on the Supervisor's Office. Dr. Wald presented his research regarding current population estimates for the City of Gainesville, its precincts, and districts, and corresponding maps illustrating the estimates (Exhibit 3).

After hearing the presentations of Ms. Carpenter and Dr. Wald, the Committee voted to recommend to the City Commission that redistricting of the City's election districts not be conducted at this time and that redistricting occur after the City receives the 2010 Census data. The Committee based its recommendation on the following:

- 1. The Committee was concerned about the accuracy and reliability of noncensus population estimates and using such estimates to redistrict in 2009. The Committee preferred that redistricting be based on the 2010 Census data.
- 2. The Committee was concerned about the cost associated with redistricting in 2009 and again in 2012.
- 3. The Committee was concerned about voter confusion due to multiple changes in voting districts as a result of a 2009 redistricting and a likely second redistricting in 2012 after the 2010 census data is reviewed and precinct boundaries are anticipated to be redrawn by the Supervisor of Elections.
- 4. The Committee was concerned about the impact of a 2009 redistricting effort on the Supervisor of Elections' budget and timeline.
- 5. The Committee was concerned about potential large-scale annexations into the City in the near future and their impact on any current efforts to redistrict the City.

Prepared and submitted by:

Susan Bottcher, Chair

Overview of Districting

Kenneth D. Wald

Background of districts in Gainesville Legal standards governing redistricting Major choices in 2009 Issues and complications

Gainesville City Commission Districts

- 1927-1987 5 commissioners elected at-large
- *1987 adoption of 3 district/2 at-large system (districts based on 1980 census)
- 1992 redistricting after 1990 census
- 2001 redistricting after 2000 census
- •2002 redistricting after annexation & adoption of 4 district/3 at-large system

Districting Standards

Absolute

• Contiguity

Relative

- · Population Equality
- Compactness

Recommended

- · Protection of incumbents
- · Maintenance of administrative units
- · Reflection of communities of interest

Population Equality

- Minimize population deviations between districts to% standard
- Federal law requires redistricting only after a new census
- Gainesville charter allows City Commission to redistrict more often for population balance

Major Choices

Annexation of SW area east of I-75 adds approx. 6400 new residents and raises 3 possibilities:

- Option 1: Add to District 3 & make no other changes
- Option 2: Add to District 3 & change other borders only as necessary
- · Option 3: Redraw all districts from scratch

issues & Complications

(1) Absence of new census data

- · Current lines based on 2000 census
- Data from 2010 census not available until April 2011
- Census has estimates only for city as a whole (2007)
- Dilemma redistrict on "old" data or use estimates

(2) Developing population estimates

- · Legal status is unclear
- · Estimates rely on assumptions that contain error

Exhibit 4

issues & Compilcations if option 2 or 3 implemented.

(3) Might disrupt existing relationships in 2010 (District 2)

(4) Further disruption in 2011

- Will be required to redistrict based on 2010 census
- Likely revision of precincts by Alachua County Supervisor of Elections
- Voter confusion over 2 changes in boundaries



December

1-4

24-25

28-30

8

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Historic Star Garage Building 111 S.E. 1st Avenue Gainesville, Florida 32601-6819 Mailing: P.O. Box 1496 Gainesville, Florida 32602-1496

Telephone: (352) 374-5252

Fax:

Exhibit 2

(352) 374-5264

Alachua County Supervisor of Elections Office 2009-2010 Calendar

2009

June 21-26 State Florida Association of Supervisors of Elections (FSASE) Conference 29-July27 NCOA address maintenance July 1-27 NCOA address maintenance 27-31 Mid-Year Reports to State August 3-7 Phase 1 Bi-annual file maintenance mail out 10-31 Update voter address records in response to file maintenance replies September 14-18 Phase 2 bi-annual file maintenance mail-out 18-Oct 16 Update voter address records in response to file maintenance replies October Statewide petition verification Update voter address records in response to file maintenance replies 1-16 19-23 Prepare required second mailing for file maintenance 26-on Update voter information in response to second mailing replies November Statewide petition verification 3 Archer/High Springs Election Day 10 Tentative City of Gainesville Annexation Election Day 26-27 Thanksgiving 30-Dec 4 **FSASE** Conference

Statewide petition verification

End of Year reports to State

FSASE Conference

Waldo Election Day GIS Conference

Holiday

Visit our Web Site at: http://www.elections.alachua.fl.us



January 1-31

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

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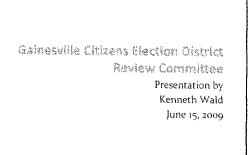
Fax: (352) 374-5264

Alachua County Supervisor of Elections Office 2009-2010 Calendar

2010

4-29	Preparations for City of Gainesville Election
February 1 1-28 2-5	Last day for state petitions to be accepted/verified Election Preparation City of Gainesville Pollworker Training Candidate qualifying week – City of Gainesville
March 1-5 8-12 9 16 20 20-31	Pollworker Training City of Gainesville and Micanopy Gainesville Early Voting City of Micanopy Election Day LaCrosse Election Day City of Gainesville Election Day City of Gainesville Manual Post-Election Equipment Audit Election preparation-Gainesville City Run-Off
April 5-9 13	Early Voting – City of Gainesville Run-Off Pollworker Training- City of Newberry Pollworker Training- City of Alachua Alachua/Newberry Election Day
19	City of Gainesville Run-Off Election Post-Election Manual Audit-City of Gainesville Run-Off

Petition verification-statewide initiatives



One request

- Currently authorized for 100 hours @ \$100/hr
- Seek authorization for an additional 50 hours of work
 ® \$100/hr
- Consultant has used 35+ hours and I've put in 20.5 (55-60) out of authorized 100 hrs.
- Used time to develop precinct-level population estimates without a Census headcount
- Major tasks ahead: draft district plan (if requested) and write reports + meetings and public hearings required approx. 45 hours in 2002

Options for GCEDRC

- Should Gainesville redistrict before 2010 census?
- If so, should the redistricting use 2000 census data with additions for annexation?
- If so, should the redistricting use 2000 census data with additions for annexation & other sources of population growth?

Preliminary Questions

- What is best source to estimate Gainesville's 2009 population?
- 2. What is the target population for districts under the various 2009 population estimates?
- 3. How well do the current districts meet the equality standard?

Gainesville's 2009 Population

Basis for Estimation	Pap. Estimate
1. Base with Census 2000 after 2002 atmospation	111,224
Base with subsequent amexations based on 2000 census & 2001 GRU map	117,357
Base with subsequent annuxations based on 2000 census & 2000 GRU map	117,655
 Base with subsequent annexation & estimated growth based on change in households (GRU maps, 2001, 2009) and average household size (2005-2007 ACS) 	119,964
 BEBR 2008 projection plus Planning Dept, estimate of sidesequent american 	130,913
Census Bureau estimate from ACS (2005-7) plus 2000 Census estimate of subsequent annexation	119,594
Census Bureau 2007 projection plus 2000 Census estimate of subsequent annexation	120,427

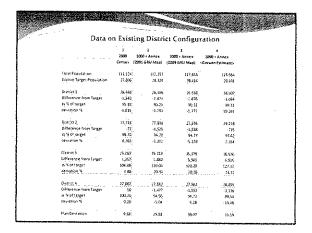
Major differences among a estimates

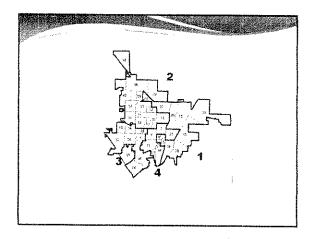
Estimates 2-4

- use 2000 census headcount as base
- provide precinct-level population estimates

Estimates 5-7

- rely more heavily on projections or survey samples
- do not provide precinct-level population estimates





Basis for Estimation	Pop. Estimate
1. Base with Census 2000 after 2002 annexation	111,224
2. Base with subsequent annexations based on 2000 census & 2001 GRU map	117,357
3. Base with subsequent annexations based on 2000 census & 2009 GRU map	117,655
4. Base with annex and estimated change in households (GRU maps) and 2005-7 Census estimate of household size from American Community Surveys	119,964
5. BEBR 2008 projection plus Planning Dept. estimate of subsequent annexation	130,913
6. Census Bureau estimate from ACS (2005-7) plus 2000 Census estimate of subsequent annexation	119,594
7. Census Bureau 2007 projection plus 2000 Census estimate of subsequent annexation	120,427

	<u>Map 1</u>	<u>Map 2</u>	<u>Map 3</u>	Map 4
	2000 Census	2000 + Annex	2000 + Annex	2000 + Annex
	2000 Certsus	(2000 GRU Map)	(2009 GRU Map)	+Growth Estimates
Total Population	111,224	117,357	117,655	119,964
Target (Total/4)	27,806	29,339	29,414	29,991
District 1	26,466	26,466	26,538	26,907
Difference from target	-1,340	-2,873	-2,876	-3,084
As % of target	95.181	90.207	90.223	89.716
Deviation in %	-4.819	-9.793	-9.777	-10.284
District 2	27,733	27,810	27,876	29,276
Difference from target	-73	-1,529	-1,538	-715
As % of target	99.74	94.79	94.77	97.62
Deviation in %	-0.263	-5.212	-5.228	-2.384
District 3	29,163	35,219	25 270	26.026
Difference from target	1,357	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	35,379	36,926
As % of target	1,337	5,880 120.04	5,965	6,935
Deviation in %	4.88	20.04	120.28 20.28	123.12 23.12
District 4	27,862	27,862	27,862	26,855
Difference from target	56	-1,477	-1,552	-3,136
As % of target	100.20	94.96	94.72	89.54
Deviation in %	0.20	-5.04	-5.28	-10.46
Plan Deviation	9.68	29.83	30.07	33.59

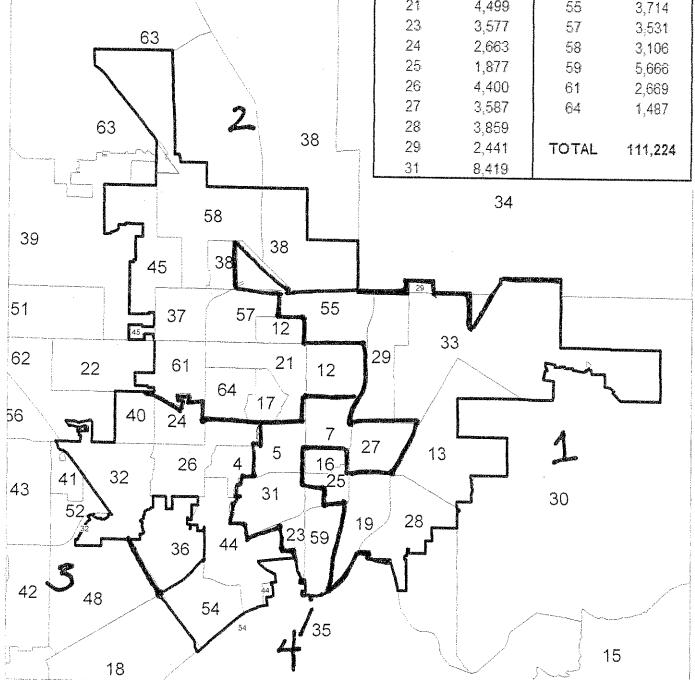
Gainesville precincts and 2002 city boundary

Precinct population estimates for 2000

These are the estimates delivered in 2002, based on census data and the 2001 GRU residential electric hookup data.

In the case of precincts that cross the city boundary, population estimates include only people living in the city.

Precinct	Population	Precinct	Population
4	1,264	32	3,741
5	3,944	33	4,741
7	2,669	37	2.484
12	3,614	38	2,552
13	5,320	40	1,559
16	1,694	44	8,042
17	1,382	45	2,409
19	2,820	54	7,494
21	4,499	55	3,714
23	3,577	57	3,531
24	2,663	58	3,106
25	1,877	59	5,666
26	4,400	61	2,669
27	3,587	64	1,487
28	3,859		,
29	2,441	TOTAL	111,224
31	8,419		,
	34		



Gainesville precincts, 2009 city boundary, and annexed areas

Precinct population estimates for 2000 based on census data and the 2001 GRU residential electric hookup data Precinct Population Precinct Population 4 1.264 37 2,484 Notes: 5 3,944 2,552 38 1. The GRU data omit a substantial fraction of 7 2.669 40 1,559 City residents, including students in UF dorms. 12 3,614 44 8,044 2. Household size variations introduce an 13 5,320 Annexed pop: 2 unknown but likely substantial amount of error 16 1.694 into the estimates. 17 1,382 45 2.512 3. In the case of precincts that cross the city 19 2,820 Annexed pop: 144 boundary, population estimates include only 21 4.499 Corrected error: 41 fewer people living in the city. 23 3,577 24 2.663 54 7.496 25 1,877 Annexed pop: 2 26 4,400 27 3,587 55 3.714 28 3,859 57 3.531 29 2,441 58 3.106 31 8,419 59 5,666 32 63 3,741 61 2.643 38 33 4,741 Corrected error: 26 fewer 36 6,052 All annexed since 2002 64 1,487 2009 annexation area: 4,395 Pre-2009 annexations: 1,657 58 TOTAL 117,357 Annexations in several precincts, including 38 39 38 and 58, are uninhabited or contain no GRU points 38 45 29 51 55 37 57 12 33 29 62 21 61 22 12 64 17 40 56 24 7 27 13 5 ď 4 26 16-32 41 25 43 31 30 52 28 19 23 59 44 2009 City boundary 35 Areas annexed since 2002 18

Gainesville precincts, 2009 city boundary, and annexed areas

Precinct population estimates for 2000 based on census data and the 2009 GRU residential electric hookup data Precinct Population Precinct Population 1.264 37 2,484 Notes: 5 3,944 38 2,552 1. The GRU data omit a substantial fraction of 7 2,669 40 1,559 City residents, including students in UF dorms. 12 3,614 44 8.077 2. Household size variations introduce an 13 5,320 Annexed pop: 35 unknown but likely substantial amount of error 16 1,694 into the estimates. 17 1,382 45 2.576 3. In the case of precincts that cross the city 19 2,820 Annexed pop: 208 21 4,499 Corrected error: 41 fewer boundary, population estimates include only 23 3,577 people living in the city. 24 2,663 7.571 25 1,877 Annexed pop: 77 26 4,400 27 3,587 55 3.714 28 3,859 57 3,531 29 2.441 58 3,106 31 8,419 59 5,666 32 3,793 61 2,645 Annexed pop: 52 Annexed pop: 2 63 Corrected error: 26 fewer 38 33 4.813 Annexed pop: 72 64 1.487 6.052 36 TOTAL 117,655 58 All annexed since 2002 2009 annexation area: 4,639 39 38 Pre-2009 annexations: 1,413 38 45 55 51 37 57 12 33 29 62 21 61 22 12 64 17 40 56 24 Ti 7 27 13 5 16-26 4 32 41 25 43 31 30 52 28 19 23 59 44 Annexations in several precincts, including 38 ₩₄₈, 9 and 58, are uninhabited or contain no GRU points. 2009 City boundary 35 Areas annexed since 2002 18

Gainesville precincts, 2009 city boundary, and annexed areas

Precinct population estimates for 2009 based on census data and the 2001 to 2009 change in GRU residential electric hookups

54

18

35

1. The GRU data omit a substantial fraction of Precinct Population Precinct Population City residents, including students in UF dorms. 4 1.217 36 5.665 2. The 2001 GRU data misplace more than 5 3,669 All annexed since 2002 2,000 housing units. This problem was only 7 3.043 2009 annexation area: 5.045 partly corrected. 12 3,209 Pre-2009 annexations: 620 3. Household size variations introduce an 13 5,358 unknown but likely substantial amount of error 16 1,739 37 2,741 into the estimates. 17 1.343 38 2.084 4. In the case of precincts that cross the city 19 2,546 40 boundary, population estimates include only 1,685 21 5.531 people living in the city. 44 8,792 23 3,426 45 3.596 24 2,690 54 7,286 25 2,599 55 3.486 26 4,270 57 3,846 27 3,413 58 2.976 28 3,666 59 6.396 29 2,563 61 2,512 63 31 6.909 64 1,438 38 32 5,321 33 4.950 TOTAL 119,964 34 58 39 38 38 45 55 51 57 37 12 33 29 62 21 61 22 12 64 17 40 66 24 Ma 7 27 13 5 16-4 26 32 41 25 43 31 30 52 28 19 23 59 44

2009 City boundary

Areas annexed since 2002

Gainesville Population Estimates

Kenneth D. Wald, Ph.D Consultant to the Citizens Election Districts Review Committee

On the past occasions when Gainesville has been redistricted, I have used the population headcount conducted every ten years by the U.S. Census. For 2009, no current headcount data are available. This forced me to rely instead on population projections which vary widely based on their assumptions and sources of data. For example, the 2007 population projections for Gainesville offered by the respected UF Bureau of Business and Economic Research and the U.S. Census bureau differ by more than 8,000 people—a 7% difference. The reliability of the population estimates declines even more for small areas such as the 32 precincts that make up Gainesville's four Commission districts.

The major sources of error in such projections are likely to include but are not limited to:

- (a) Population projections are based partly on numbers of households. The only available household count outside the census, the GRU map, does not cover the entire city and misses the large number of group homes--college dormitories, correction facilities, nursing homes, and the like—that house about 10% of the city population.
- (b) Population projections are also based on average household size. Outside the census, this number is available only for the entire city. Because household size differs from place to place, using the same citywide average in each precinct may generate considerable error.

Problems of this nature undermine the accuracy of these population estimates and raise questions about whether redistricting based on them will improve or undermine the equity of voting districts.