

Redistricting Gainesville in 2012:

Supplementary Report to the Gainesville City Commission

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**Gainesville City Commission
City Hall Auditorium
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Overview

- Questions about impact of District 1 redistricting
- Extend vote dilution analysis to general election results

Recommendation

Background

- District 1 about 9500 residents short
 - New precinct boundaries
 - Slower growth on east side
- Add whole precincts to bring it up to target
- Goal: Avoid diluting minority vote so minority residents may elect representatives of their choosing

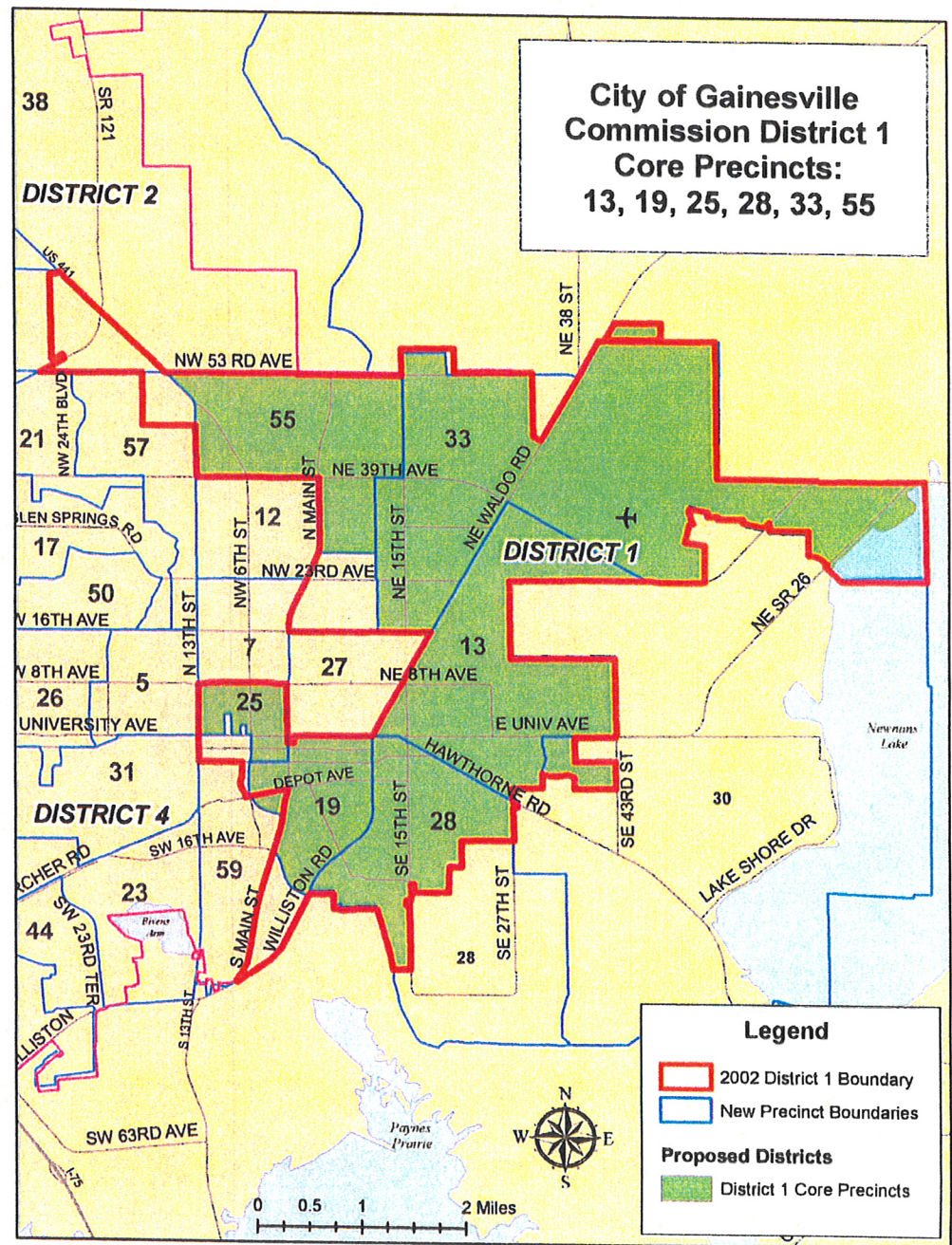
Test by compiling election results into new district boundaries

Procedure

- Calculate votes for preferred candidate in 6 “core” precincts of old District 1
- Add votes preferred candidate received in precincts added to District 1 under 4 plans
- Calculate percentage difference between preferred candidate’s vote share in new District 1 and core
- May yield negative (diluted) or positive (non-diluted) percentage

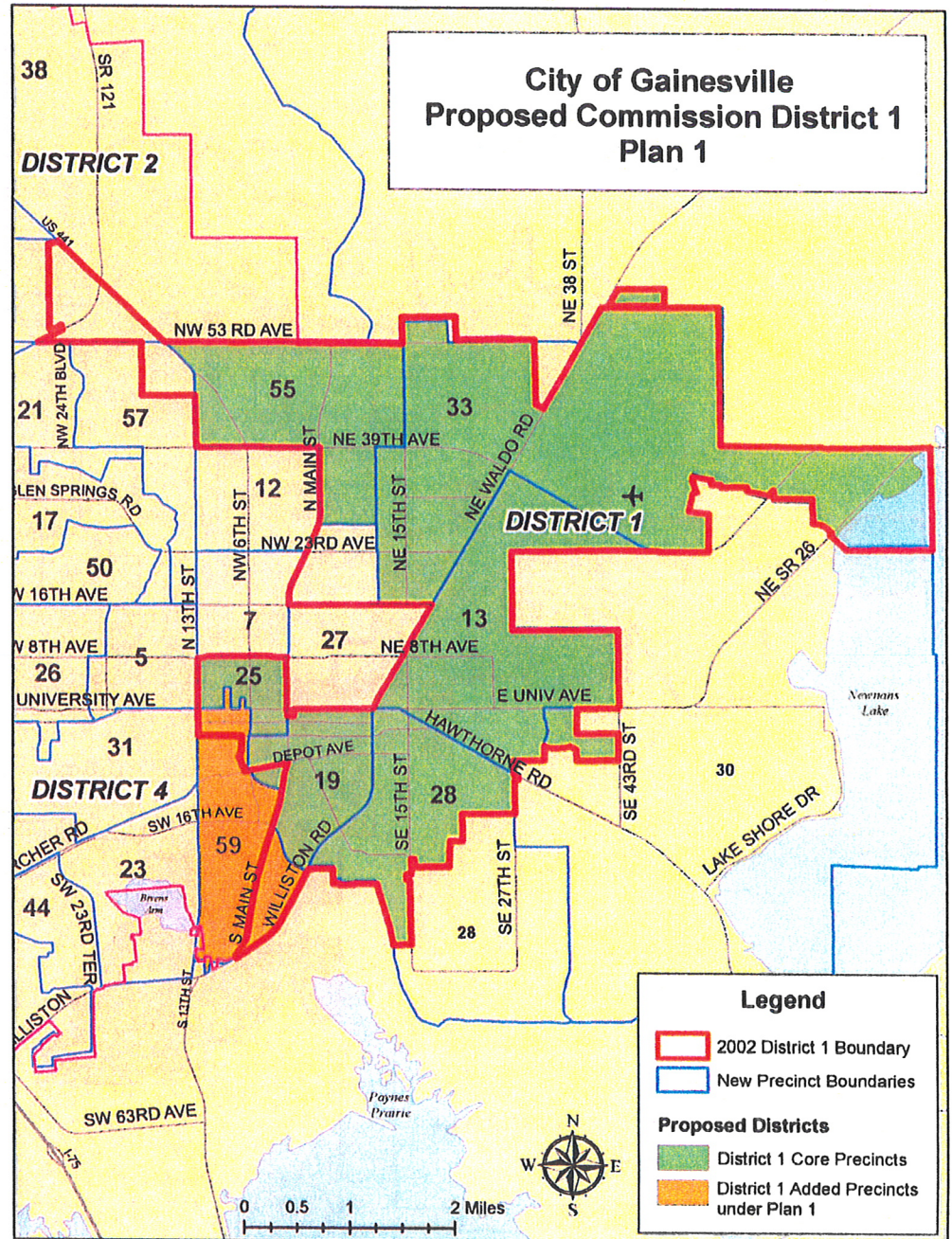
City of Gainesville Commission District 1

Core Precincts:
13, 19, 25, 28, 33, 55



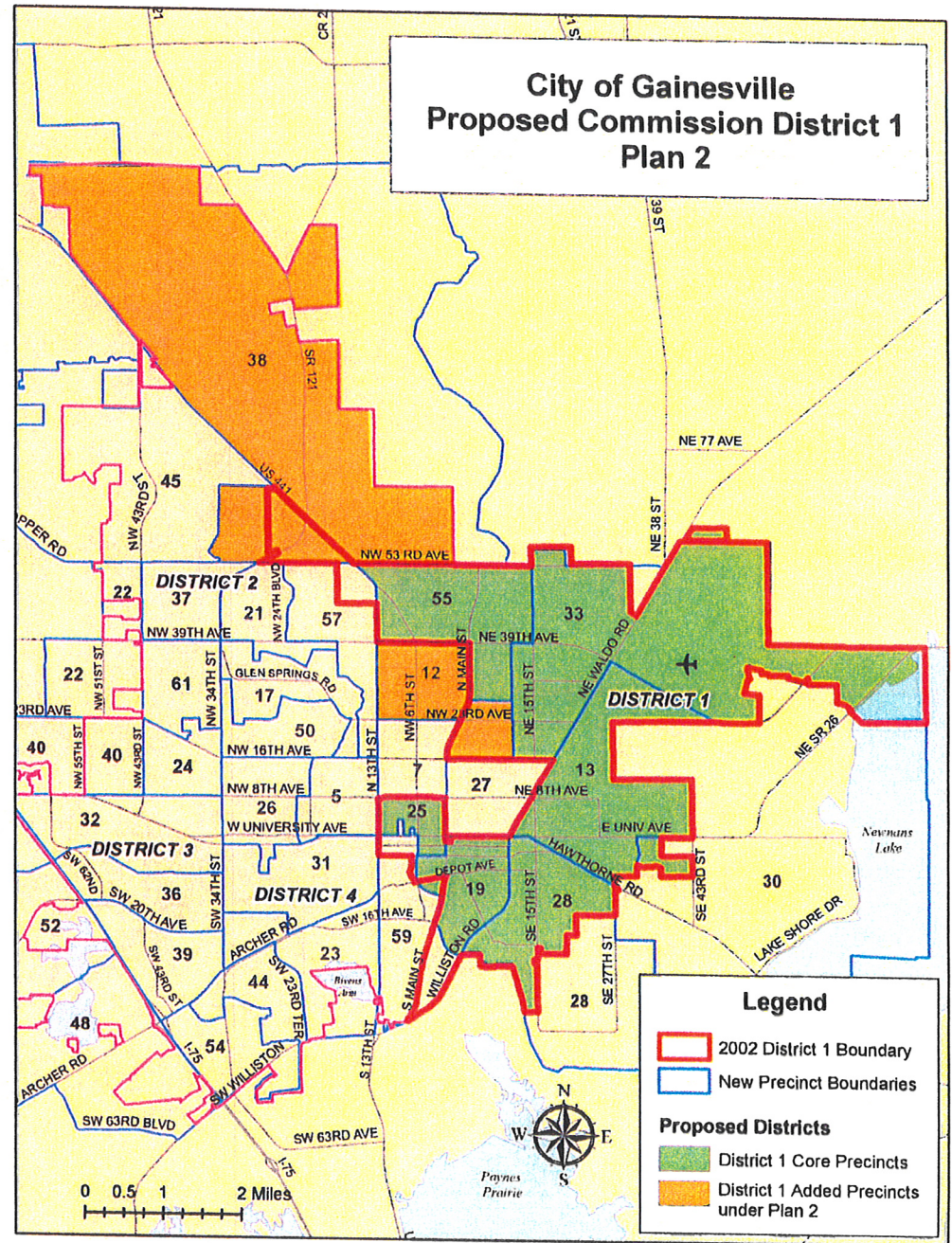
City of Gainesville Commission District 1

Plan 1:
Add Precinct 59



City of Gainesville Commission District 1

Plan 2:
Add Precincts
12 & 38



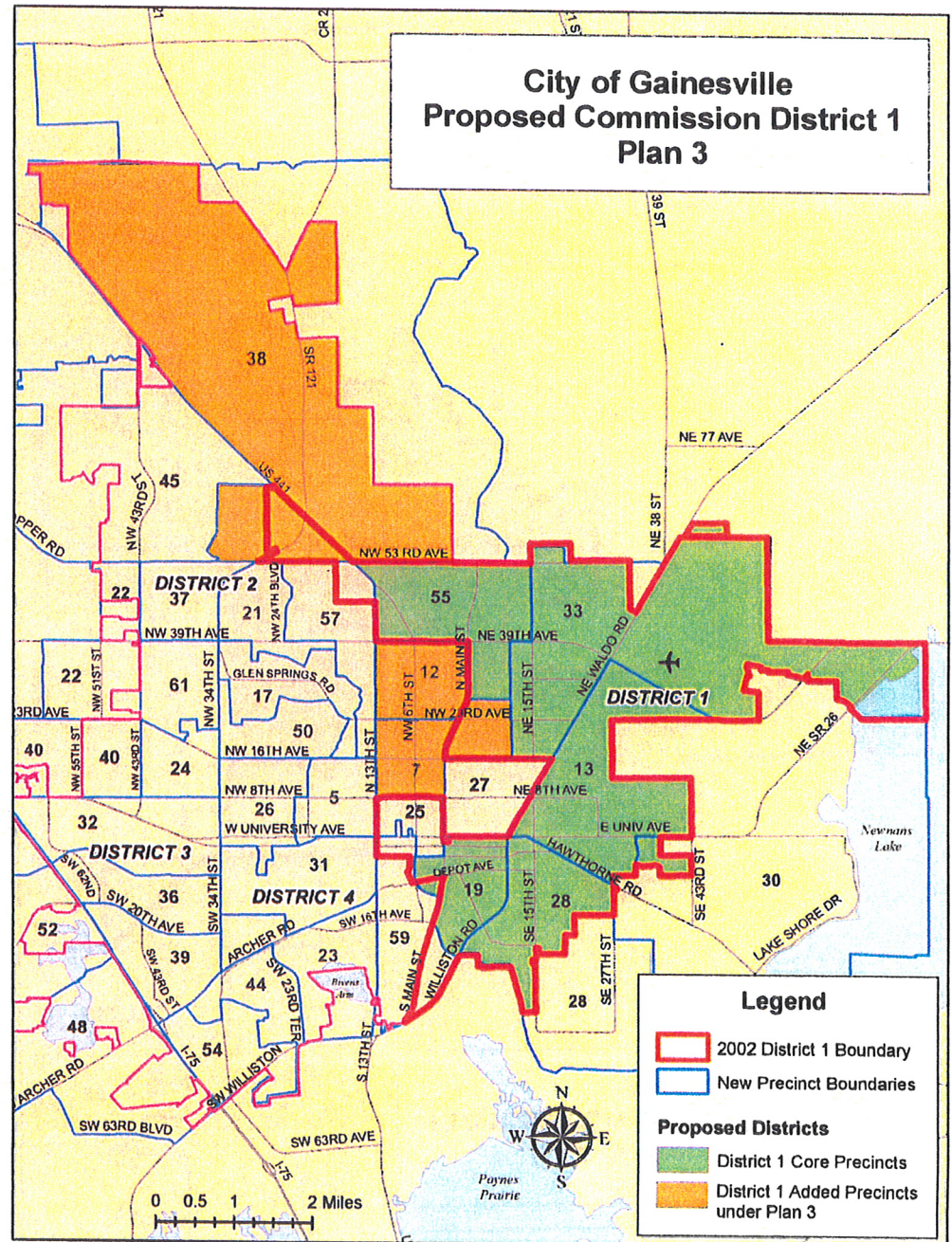
City of Gainesville Commission District 1

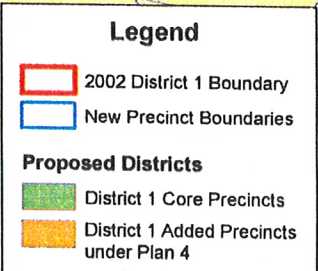
Plan 3

Precinct Changes:

Remove 25

Add 12 & 38





Primary results

- Across 5 contests, Plan 1 produced least dilution: -1.45% vs. 4.6-6.4%
- Advantage of Plan 1 over alternatives greatest in racially polarized contests
- Registration * turnout in added precincts = Δ
 - Plan 1 (59) had 53.4% & 7.9%
 - Plan 4 (7,12,27) had 84.7% & 26%
 - Differences persistent due to social traits

General election results

Table 5
Vote Dilution in General Election under Plans 1-4

		County Commission #5		School Board #4		All
		% Chestnut	Dilution	% McNealy	Dilution	Average Dilution
Core	Core: 13, 19, 25, 28, 33, 55	85.20%		62.95%		
Plan 1	+ Precinct 59	79.53%	-5.67%	61.02%	-1.93%	-3.80
Plan 2	+ Precincts 12 & 38	78.64%	-6.56%	61.12%	-1.83%	-4.20
Plan 3	7, 12, 13, 19, 28, 33, 38, 55	78.70%	-6.50%	61.50%	-1.45%	-3.98
Plan 4	+ Precincts 7, 12, 27 added	82.01%	-3.20%	63.17%	0.22%	-1.71

Implications

- In 6/7 elections, candidate preferred in old District 1 came in first in new District 1
- Exception was candidate with few ties to District 1
- Plan 4 marginally better in general election but worst in primary
- Plan 1 “worked” because Precinct 59 residents
 - Registered at much lower
 - Turned out at a much lower rate
 - Abstained from local contests at a higher rate
- Plan 1 produces negligible change in political character of District 1

Recommendation

- Plan 1 has 2 major advantages
 - Minimizes change in districts
 - Allows voters to decide on incumbents
- Plan 1 also unlikely to change political character of District 1 based on

Analysis of actual election results since July

Historical experience of last 25 years

Reaffirm recommendation in full report