# IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF NAVARRO COUNTY, TEXAS

FINDINGS OF FACT REGARDING POLITICAL BOUNDARIES
OF NAVARRO COUNTY, TEXAS
FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF 2020 CENSUS DATA
AND
ORDER FOR REDISTRICTING OF POLITICAL BOUNDARIES

On the <u>18</u> day of <u>0 Ctobes</u>, 2021, the Commissioners Court of Navarro County met in regular/called session, having posted notice of said hearing in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

The Commissioners Court of Navarro County has previously retained the firm of Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP, of Austin, Texas, to conduct an Initial Assessment of existing political boundaries of Navarro County, following the issuance of census data by the United States Census Bureau. Attached to this Order, and incorporated herein for all purposes by reference, is a copy of the initial assessment conducted by Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP. This assessment is based upon PL94-171 data, as required by federal law, and is further based upon information provided to Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP by the Texas Legislative Council, other official sources of information, and by Navarro County, Texas.

Based upon this information, Navarro County has a total maximum deviation of 18.51%. The term total maximum deviation is determined by dividing the total population of Navarro County by four, the number of Commissioners Court precincts to determine an ideal precinct size. The actual population of each precinct is then determined, based upon the official population data contained within the census count, as defined by Public Law 94-171. The actual population of each precinct is compared to the ideal precinct size and a range of deviation by percentage is determined. Any total maximum deviation in excess of ten percent (10%) is presumptively unconstitutional under established federal law.

As a result of this determination, Navarro County has a constitutional duty to redistrict its political boundaries so as to achieve "One-Person-One-Vote" numerical balance between the four commissioners court precincts at a legally acceptable margin of deviation, and to make such changes as are necessary to comply with the Voting Rights Act and applicable state and federal law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDUGED and DECREED that the Commissioners Court of Navarro County, Texas expressly finds that it has a legal duty to redistrict. The public interest will be served by redrawing the existing political boundaries of Navarro County in such a manner as to comply with applicable state and federal law. The Commissioners Court hereby enters the following findings of fact and of law:

- 1. Navarro County has a total maximum deviation, as defined in this order, of 18.51%.
- 2. Any total maximum deviation in excess of ten percent (10%) is presumptively unconstitutional under federal law.
- 3. Navarro County, acting by and through its Commissioners Court, is hereby resolved to immediately undertake such necessary and appropriate action to accomplish redistricting of existing commissioners court precincts, and any incidental modification of existing, consolidated, or newly created election precincts necessary to accomplish such redistricting.
- 4. The Commissioners Court shall henceforth convene in open meetings, duly posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, to take up and consider one or more alternative plans for the legal redistricting of Navarro County.
- 5. After due consideration of one or more alternative plans, Navarro County shall adopt a plan deemed to satisfy legal requirements, and which best suits the legitimate governmental needs of Navarro County.
- 6. The adopted redistricting plan will address political boundaries of the Commissioners Court, Justice of the Peace and Election precincts of Navarro County, and shall remain in effect until altered or amended by subsequent Order of the Commissioners Court.

Signed this // day of // day	, 2021.
Commissioner, Precinct 1	Commissioner, Precinct 2
eldhau	ames Oksen
Commissioner, Precinct 3	Commissioner, Precinct 4
Count	y Judge Navarro County
Thing Dous	
County Clerk, Navarro County	

# order <u>2021-9</u>

# AN ORDER ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR REDISTRICTING OF POLITICAL BOUNDARIES

The Commissioners Court is the governing body of Navarro County, Texas, meeting in a duly scheduled and posted meeting, does hereby adopt the following criteria for use in the redistricting of all county political boundaries. Any plan for the redistricting of representative members of the Commissioners Court of the Navarro County should, to the maximum extent possible, conform to the following criteria:

- 1. The plan should ensure that all applicable provisions of the U.S. and Texas Constitutions, the Voting Rights Act, the Texas Election Code are honored.
- 2. The plan should be drawn in such a manner that the maximum deviation from an ideal size, as determined by dividing the total population of the county divided by four (the number of single member districts that compose the Commissioners Court of Navarro County, by not more than five (5%) percent for any single precinct, or a total top to bottom deviation (percentage of deviation below and above the ideal size) of not more than ten (10%) percent.
- 3. The plan should address minority representation, and if at all possible, in conformity with constitutional standards, avoid retrogression in the percentage of population and voting age demographics consistent with existing minority representation.
- 4. The plan should, avoid fragmentation and preserve minority communities of interest to the maximum extent possible. These communities of interest should be recognized and retained intact where possible. Only when the overall minority population of the county is sufficiently large to require more than one minority district should minority populations be divided, and only then to the least degree possible.
- 5. The plan should not, however, attempt to unreasonably join geographically remote minority populations into a single precinct unless there are strong and genuine connections between these communities as reflected by common schools, churches, or cultural ties. For example, minority populations in two separate towns, located miles apart, may not have sufficient links or common political cohesion to justify joining these two minority population centers into a single electoral group. Particularly when dealing with distinct minority groups,

- such as Black and Hispanic populations, a general assumption that separate minority populations will vote in a "block" may be unsupportable in fact.
- 6. The plan should seek compact and contiguous political boundaries. Physical boundaries of cultural or economic significance, such as rivers, multi-laned control access highways or turnpikes, which tend to divide populations in fundamental ways, should be recognized and where possible, should only serve as necessary to achieve recognized objectives. To the maximum extent possible, clearly recognized boundaries, such as streets and highways, should be used to facilitate ease of voter identification of boundaries, as well as election administration.
- 7. Where possible, well-recognized and long used election precinct boundaries should be retained intact (within the limitations imposed by state and federal law) or with as little alteration as possible.
- 8. Election precincts in the plan should be sized in conformity with state law. For example, in counties that use traditional, hand counted paper ballots, no election precinct may contain more than 2000 voters. In counties with voting systems that allow for automated ballot counting, this number may be increased to as many as 5000 registered voters.
- 9. The plan should afford incumbent office holders with the assurance that they will continue to represent the majority of individuals who elected these incumbents, and all incumbents' residential locations should be retained in their reformed precincts to ensure continuity in leadership during the remaining term of incumbents to the extent possible.
- 10. The plan should address fundamental and necessary governmental functions, and to the extent possible, ensure that these functions are enhanced rather than impaired. For example, county road mileage should be balanced to the extent possible between the resulting commissioner's precincts. Election administration should not be unduly complex as a result of election boundaries.
- 11. The plan should ensure that election voting precincts under that plan do not contain territory from more than one commissioner's precinct, justice precinct, congressional district, state representative district, state senatorial district and state Board of Education. Although no longer required, city election wards should be honored in virtually all circumstances, with city and rural county voters being kept in separate voting precincts to the extent possible. Where they exist, other special election districts, such as water, hospital, or navigation

districts, should be structured in a manner to provide to the greatest extent possible the harmonious administration of various election jurisdictions.

- 12. The plan should attempt to locate polling places in convenient, well-known locations that are accessible to disabled voters to the maximum extent possible. Public buildings should be utilized to the maximum extent possible as polling places. Where necessary, buildings routinely open to the public, such as churches, retail businesses, or private buildings dedicated to public activities, can be used as polling places.
- 13. If the reduction of polling places can be accomplished, without impinging upon voter convenience and minority voting rights, such reductions can be considered.
- 14. Citizen input should be encouraged, but in order to minimize cost and to have sufficient information to evaluate such proposals fairly, the County will only consider proposed plans submitted to the County for evaluation by individual citizens or groups if the proposed plan is submitted to the County in a commonly used GIS format, such as .SHP, .MAP, .KLM, .GPX, .MDB, along with maps and demographic data sufficient to address voting rights concerns.

The foregoing criteria are deemed to be illustrative, but not exclusive, examples of fundamentally important issues, which should be considered in any redistricting, plan. Therefore, the Commissioners Court expresses its intention to measure any plan submitted for consideration by this set of criteria, and to base any eventual exercise of discretion upon the foregoing criteria.

The criteria approved this date were considered in open Court, following posting not less than 72 hours before any action taken on the same. Upon motion by Judge Davenper; second by Com. Moore, the Commissioners Court of Navarro County hereby adopts the criteria set forth herein by a vote of \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_.

Signed this 18 day of October, 2021.

County Judge

County Clerk

Attest:

# AMENDED INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF NAVARRO COUNTY, TEXAS FOR PURPOSES OF REDISTRICTING EVALUATION

#### Prepared by

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#### TAB A: Initial Assessment

The Initial Assessment is a narrative analysis of the data contained in the PL94-171 files provided by the Census Bureau, together with an explanation of the impact such data may have upon the County in light of state and federal law.

#### TAB B: Statistical Definitions and Determination of Total Maximum Deviation

Definitions of the various ratios, formula and procedures utilized in the analysis of county population. These ratios, formula and procedures have been largely developed in case law in the field of redistricting, together with generally recognized methods of sociological study.

NOTE: Prison inmate populations are included in the census data. However, inmates detained under felony convictions are not eligible to vote under Texas law. As such, populations of inmates held within the state prison system, either in state owned and operated facilities, or under contract in county facilities, are typically not counted in the determination of Total Maximum Deviation, or for other "one-person-one-vote" determinations. For purposes of the Initial Assessment, raw data has been acquired from the County and/or the Department of Criminal Justice regarding prison populations, and from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for persons held pending immigration cases. In subsequent census data releases, group housing data may reveal more specific information, but at this time, we are deducting prison populations from county population totals in order to arrive at a true "one-person-one-vote" analysis, and to avoid potential imbalances in population that might result of inclusion of prison population in precinct totals. County jails holding persons convicted of both felony and misdemeanor offenses, juvenile facilities, or facilities holding individuals pending resolution of pending criminal or immigration charges are included within the population counts for the county, as reflected in the census data.

#### **DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS**

The working file is a demographic analysis of each major County elective office elected from geographic precincts. These files analyze the population demographics of each precinct based elective office, i.e. the offices of County Commissioner, and Justice of the Peace/Constable precincts. Prior to the 1990 census, previously existing election precinct boundaries were often described by non-physical boundaries. Since the use of computerized census maps was first implemented in 1990, based upon topological maps which contain not only physical boundaries, such as roads, streets, streams and water bodies, but also such "non-physical boundaries" as easements, municipal boundaries or other surveyed lines, but not visible on the ground, it was necessary to merely "approximate" those boundaries that were not defined by a physical boundary such as a road, watercourse, or other physical boundary. These approximations were described as Voter Tabulation Districts, or VTDs. It should be

noted that the VTD was only approximation of the actual voting boundaries, since Public Law 94-171 requires that the VTD utilize census blocks as its component parts.

In 1990, most counties adopted election boundaries based on census blocks, but VTDs are still encountered. The boundaries utilized in this Initial Assessment are derived from the Texas Legislative Council, and have been, to the extent possible, confirmed as accurate by local officials. However, some counties continue to have election precinct boundaries defined in a manner that is incompatible with census block-based mapping. Therefore, in some cases, you may find a discrepancy between the actual boundary in use, and the census block-based mapping boundaries used in this report. All future election precincts should be based upon census blocks to avoid any discrepancy between the actual boundary in use and the official boundary description maintained by the Texas Legislative Council.

County demographic data is depicted in chart and graphic form for both total county population as well as voting age population. While "One-Person-One-Vote" balance between the four Commissioners Court Precincts is based upon the entire county population, the availability of voting age populations is also important in two respects.

First, each county should assess the size of existing election precincts. State law limits the size of election precincts of not less than 100 registered voters, and not more than 5,000 registered voters per election precinct. (See §42.006, Texas Election Code, V.T.S.C.A), with some exceptions based on the size of each county population.

Second, in counties inhabited by a significant minority population, the need to create one or more Commissioners Court Precincts that assure minority representation requires utilization of voting age information. While the actual political boundaries will be based upon total population, the viability of the resulting precinct in terms of the ability to elect requires analysis of voting age population.

TAB C: Maps

The following maps depict county populations by census block. It should be noted that in some census blocks, the total population may be very small, and the resulting color shading may therefore result in some misperception of actual population totals.

Correlation of the map depiction with the data contained in the PL94-171 is necessary to assure accuracy of any assumptions or projections for reapportionment purposes. All computer-generated matters contained in this report, including statistical ratios or formulas, are derived from information taken directly from the Public Law 94-171 files of the United States Census Bureau. Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP shall not be responsible for errors that may occur in the PL94-171 data.

Map 1: Depiction of Existing Commissioners

Court Precincts-County wide

Map 2: Voting or Election Districts-County Wide

Map 2: Hispanic population

Map 3: Black population

Map 4: Other Non-Anglo Population

(Asian, American Indian, Pacific Islander, Other or Multi-racial categories in excess of 3% aggregate. Few Texas counties will have this level of "other"

Non-Anglo population. If your county does not have more than 3%

of "other non-Anglo population, there will be no Map 4)

Map 5: Justice/Constable Precincts

Map 5 depicts the Justice of the Peace/Constable Precincts, and the respective election precincts of each such Justice/Constable precinct. Reference should be made to Appendix B for demographic analysis of Justice/Constable precincts. It should be noted that the offices of Justice of the Peace and Constable are not considered as representative offices, and are therefore not legally required to comply with either "One-Person-One-Vote" balance or "representative" analysis under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. (42 U.S.C. 1973c) Counties are not required, therefore, to make any changes to existing justice or constable precincts by federal law. However, Article 5, Section 18 of the Texas Constitution sets population requirements for the number of justice precincts required. Each County should carefully examine the number of justice precincts required by law to determine if a reduction or expansion of existing justice/constable precincts is feasible. If changes are made to Justice/Constable precincts, either directly or as a result of modification of the election precincts that make up the Justice/Constable precinct, a voting rights analysis under the Voting Rights Act is required.

### TAB A

# AMENDED INITIAL ASSESSMENT NARRATIVE

# AMENDED INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF NAVARRO COUNTY, TEXAS POLITICAL BOUNDARIES FOR PURPOSES OF REDISTRICTING

By

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#### **GENERAL OVERVIEW**

Following the Supreme Court decision in Avery v. Midland County, 390 U.S. 474; 88 S. Ct. 1114, 20 L. Ed. 2d 45 (1968), Texas Commissioners Courts have been required to make a periodic assessment of their political boundaries to determine whether the boundaries retain "one-person-one-vote" balance. This requirement is now carried forward by statutory requirement in Article 42.001 of the Texas Election Code.

Therefore, following each federal census, each Texas County should conduct an assessment of existing political boundaries. As a very general rule of thumb, any statistical change of population between the 2010 and 2020 census more than 3%, plus or minus, will indicate a potential need for reapportionment. Only in rare circumstances will a county experiencing a population change in excess of 3% avoid the need for rather extensive reapportionment of the county Commissioners Court precinct lines. However, any assumption that a population change of less than 3% will not require reapportionment is ill advised. Populations will shift within a county over time. Every County, even those with a rather insignificant overall population change, should carefully examine actual population demographics relative to their existing political lines to determine the need for reapportionment.

It should be carefully noted that simple comparisons between the county population of 2010 and 2020, or even a more sophisticated analysis of urban and rural areas of the county might not reflect the true extent of population "change" each County has experienced over the last ten years. "Change" may not directly correlate to "different" or "new" population. For example, existing populations within a county move considerably within a ten-year span. The movement of a single family a rural area to an urban area within the same county will impact both categories, and where that move crosses political boundaries, may have a significant impact on the obligation of that County to redistrict.

Efforts to balance road mileage, or to achieve other entirely practical adjustments of county boundaries must be undertaken with great care to avoid unintended shifts of population which will either exceed the required numerical balance, or will offend the Voting Rights Act.

With this general overview, the following sections of this Initial Assessment will evaluate each layer of Navarro County's political boundaries and attempt to determine whether or not the Commissioners Court should undertake reapportionment. Our assessment will point out areas of potential conflict with state and federal law, and will also suggest areas that may be considered for purposes of cost effectiveness and voter/resident convenience.

#### **INITIAL SUMMARY FINDINGS REGARDING NUMERICAL BALANCE:**

Please review the information contained under Tab B carefully. Please pay particular attention to the following:

- 1. Please consider the Total Maximum Deviation in terms of population between the Actual Population of each Commissioners Court Precinct and the Ideal Population. Remember that the ideal population of each precinct is exactly one-quarter of the total county population.
- Next, consider the Relative Deviation, expressed as a percentage, of the Actual Population of each precinct as compared to the Ideal Population of each precinct.
- 3. Redistricting will be necessary to comply with 'One-Person-One-Vote' standards if the Total Maximum Deviation between the largest precinct and the smallest precinct (in terms of population) exceeds 10%.
- 4. Therefore, carefully examine the Total Maximum Deviation calculation. If that number is more than 10%, Navarro County is legally obligated to make changes in its political boundaries to re-balance the population to more equal terms.
- 5. If the Total Maximum Deviation exceeds approximately 7%, you may want to consider redistricting in order to re-balance your boundaries, although you are not legally required to do so at this time.
- 6. If the eventual resulting Total Maximum Deviation is below 5%, you are generally safe from legal challenge on a "one-person-one-vote" basis for the next few years.

#### **MINORITY VOTING RIGHTS**

As a general rule, where the total minority percentage exceeds 25% of the total population, there is ample justification to create a commissioner's precinct that contains a potential voting majority of minority residents. In concentrations greater than 40%, consideration should be given to creating at least one commissioner's precinct with a potential voting majority of minority residents, with the possibility of any "excess population" being used to impact one or more other precincts. Where the total minority concentration exceeds 40%, the issue of "Packing" becomes a consideration, meaning that minority populations cannot be "packed" into a single precinct, but must be allowed to influence as many precincts as the total minority population warrants without efforts to fragment otherwise contiguous concentrations of minority population.

Please examine the demographic data contained under Tab B very carefully.

With the racial profile outlined under Tab B, minority representation must not be diluted, and where possible, a voting majority of minority residents should be created. In order to achieve the maximum minority representation within the demographic and geographic limitations in existence, it will be necessary to determine which election precincts, and which census blocks, contain the highest percentage of minority population and to take such reasonable measures as will insure the highest possible minority voice in county government. To achieve this goal, some attention must be paid to voting age minority residents. Again, please review the data contained under Tab B. In order to create a viable voting majority of ethnic, race or language minority voters, it is necessary to attain a voting age population within at least one Commissioners Court precinct of approximately 55% or better. In order to accomplish this high number of voting age population, a total population figure in excess of 60% is typically required.

Please examine Tab B to determine the minority population of each of the four Commissioners Court precincts. A determination of whether or not the minority populations in these precincts could be joined in a single precinct, or perhaps concentrated in an effort to maximize minority impact upon elections is difficult to assess without a more detailed evaluation of historical voting patterns, racial demographics, and the realities of political boundaries.

When taken with the numerical imbalances that must be addressed, it would appear that if at all possible, minority populations might be concentrated in at least one Commissioners Court precinct to the degree possible to achieve an acceptable potential minority concentration. Typically, the Commissioners Precinct with the largest minority concentration prior to redrawing lines is the best candidate for any alternative plan, but other possible constructions of precinct lines might well result in a favorable racial profile.

Fragmenting minority population concentrations must be avoided. Any modification of political boundaries to accomplish compliance with the requirements of the Voting Rights Act must be carefully considered.

#### ASSESSMENT OF JUSTICE OF PEACE AND CONSTABLE PRECINCTS

Please see Map 5 for a description of existing Justice of the Peace and Constable Precincts in Navarro County.

Article 5, Section 18 of the Texas Constitutional provides that each county of the State having a population of 50,000 or more shall be divided into not less than four and not more than eight precincts. Counties having a population of less than 18,000 shall be composed of a single justice/constable precinct, unless the Commissioners Court determines that not more than four such justice/constable precincts are needed. Counties having a population of less than 150,000, but which contain a city having a population of 18,000 or more inhabitants, shall provide for not less than two justices of the peace to service the city(s) having 18,000 or more inhabitants.

In each precinct so created, there shall be elected a Justice of the Peace and a Constable, each of whom shall hold office for four years.

Within the context of these Constitutional provisions, it is recommended that Navarro County reconsider the actual need for justice/constable precincts, and consider whether that need suggests change in the present configuration of justice/constable precincts. Article 292.001 Local Government Code and Article 27.051, Government Code address the location of Justice of the Peace courts. In counties having a population of less than 50,000, the County Commissioners Court may locate the justice courts either in the precinct served that justice court, or may centralize the courts in the County courthouse. In counties having a population greater than 50,000, the justice courts must be physically located in the precinct they serve.

#### ASSESSMENT OF ELECTION PRECINCTS

Election Precincts are the building blocks for all other political boundaries. Therefore, our assessment begins with this primary political unit. According to Article 42.006, Texas Election Code, V.A.C.S., each election precinct must contain not fewer than 50 registered voters and not more than 5000 registered voters. (Exceptions apply depending upon county population). For the Initial Assessment, no attempt has been made to acquire actual registered voter information. In this preliminary assessment, a formulistic approach will be used. For purposes of the Initial Assessment, we make some assumptions that allow us to estimate the highest probable number of registered voters that might reside within an election precinct. Using the voting age population demographic information contained in Appendix B, we assume that the percentage of actual registered voters would never exceed 70% of the total "eligible" voters over the age of 18 years. This assumption will generally hold true, but in some isolated cases, the actual number of registered voters may exceed 70% of total eligible voters.

Reducing the number of election precincts, where appropriate, lowers the overall costs of elections, but this reduction must be coupled with other factors, such as automated vote counting, in order to ensure that election returns can be quickly and accurately tabulated in the resulting larger election precincts. With automated vote counting systems, smaller polling place staff can accommodate larger numbers of voters, and achieve overall reductions in the costs of elections.

Current election precincts are generally acceptable. However, as the boundaries of the Commissioners Court precincts are altered to accommodate "one-person-one-vote" and Voting Rights Act changes, there will be incidental modification to your existing election precincts in most areas. In addition, you may wish to make other changes in existing election precincts to accommodate state law requirements regarding the number of voters permitted in election precinct, or to address other issues of local concern. As the process continues, we will discuss these issues with you for your guidance.

#### **CONSOLIDATION FACTORS**

A limiting factor in wholesale consolidation of county election precincts will be the restraints imposed by Art. 42.005, Texas Election Code, V.A.C.S., which restricts county election precincts to that territory which does not contain more than one commissioner's precinct, justice precinct, congressional district, state representative district, state senatorial district, or a State Board of Education District. It is also recommended that residents of a municipality be in separate election precincts from rural voters, for purposes of conducting city elections.

In any plan for county election precincts within a city having single member election districts, city ward lines must be followed to prevent a violation of state law. Therefore, all cities within the county should be encouraged to participate and cooperate in the reapportionment process.

Although state law does not require the county election precincts to conform to independent school district election precincts, if Navarro County serves as the election's administrator for other jurisdiction's elections, it only makes prudent sense to consult with each political entity to make sure your county election precincts are compatible with city or school single-member districts.

#### GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING

Some attention should be given to "straightening" political boundaries into more uniform shape. In some cases, certain election precincts may be altered to use a more commonly understood or recognized physical boundary in lieu of a poorly identified or recognized boundary. Public Law 94-171, which directed the Census Bureau to develop a uniform mapping and demographic profiling approach for use by small personal computers, required that all voter tabulation districts (VTDs) follow census block boundaries. In many cases, county voting districts had been previously drawn in a manner that did not follow a census block boundary. This required the State of Texas, acting in conjunction with the State Data Center and the Texas Legislative Council, to move the actual voting district boundary to coincide with a nearby census block boundary for tabulation purposes only. The resulting VTD was no longer "actual," but an approximation referred to as a "pseudo-voting district."

Every reasonable effort has been made to conform the pseudo voting district to actual VTD boundaries. However, due to the nature of the available data base, and the requirements of Public Law 94-171, there may be occasions in which the pseudo voting districts, or the resulting lines between commissioner's court precincts, are different from those that actually exist. Again, the use of the pseudo voting district was for tabulation purposes only, and any apparent difference between actual and apparent political lines should be considered as minimal. However, since all later census counts were undertaken upon the census blocks, there could be a valid argument that a necessity to alter current election district boundaries to match the census block format exists. Under these circumstances, new political lines will be required to avoid conflict with census block lines that do not match current political area definitions. While matching census blocks to actual political lines would not, in and of itself, generally support a decision to reapportion under the circumstances that exist in Navarro County, there is a justifiable combination of factors that would support a reapportionment decision. These factors would include:

- 1. Redrawing election precincts to increase voter convenience.
- 2. Consolidation of election precincts where practicable.
- 3. Resizing election precincts to achieve greater efficiency.

- 4. Harmonizing actual political lines with pseudo voting districts based upon census blocks.
- 5. Redrawing all lines to achieve "one-person-one-vote" deviations of the smallest possible percentage.

#### **CONCLUSION**

While the primary task of reapportionment will concentrate on the issue of numerical balance and minority representation in the formation of commissioners' court precincts, other valuable improvements could also be achieved in the political well-being of Navarro County by redrawing existing lines. The method and manner by which these less direct goals are accomplished is a responsibility imposed upon the Commissioners Court beyond those expressly required by the Voting Rights Act or the Constitution, but which may have just as much value to the general public. Cost efficiency and voter convenience in elections that might be achieved by a serious evaluation of election precincts, and the elimination of unnecessary confusion by cooperation with other governmental entities are only two of the benefits that might be achieved by reapportionment beyond the legal duties required by law.

Another issue that should be considered is the actual need for Justice of the Peace/Constable Precincts. While local demand for Justice/Constable services may well justify the current number of justice courts, the cost of maintenance and administration of these particular governmental offices should be carefully evaluated. However, state law may limit a county's ability to reduce the number of Justice/Constable precincts.

Finally, the county should consider a wholesale renumbering of its election precincts in order to simplify future elections. Consolidation should be considered where possible, subject to limitations imposed by state law and were possible by agreement with any Independent School Districts in the County.

Redistricting should be viewed as an opportunity for streamlining county organization, and a chance to address as many issues as possible to achieve greater participation and involvement in county government. This is the time to plan for future growth, anticipate costs of government operations, and to involve the public in the process of county government. We look forward to working with you in this exacting but rewarding process.

ALLISON, BASS & MAGEE, L.L.P.

### TAB B

# DETERMINATION OF TOTAL MAXIMUM DEVIATION And POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS BY PRECINCT

# COMMISSIONERS COURT PRECINCTS

Precinct 1

Precinct 2

Precinct 3

Precinct 4

	Actual Pop.	Ideal Pop.	Deviate	Relative Deviation
Precinct 1	14669	13156	1513	11.50%
Precinct 2	12234	13156	-922	-7.01%
Precinct 3	12744	13156	-412	-3.13%
Precinct 4	12977	13156	-179	-1.36%
Total	52624	52624		
Total Maximum Deviation	18.51	%		

52.52%

46.69%

55.76%

69.41%

9.18%

21.97%

9.90%

8.52%

0.40%

0.36%

0.34%

0.28%

0.75%

0.58%

1.18%

0.64%

33.60%

26.18%

26.46%

17.08%

Total Maximum Deviation above 10% requires redistricting

Maximum Deviation less than than 5% is desireable if possible.

0.27%

0.16%

0.26%

0.25%

2.50%

3.00%

3.48%

3.29%

100.00%

100.00%

100.00%

100.00%

0.78%

1.05%

2.62%

0.52%

Total Maximum Deviation	18.51	%			desireable if possible.					
Ethnic/Racial Data-Total	Anglo	Black	Am. Ind.	Asian	Hispanic	Haw/Pac Is	Other	Multi	Totals	%
Precinct 1	6971	1294	42	103	5680	127	43	409	14669	27.88%
Precinct 2	5140	2638	36	63	3752	142	32	431	12234	23.25%
Precinct 3	6409	1241	38	152	3973	371	31	529	12744	24.22%
Precinct 4	8476	1113	47	75	2644	94	31	497	12977	24.66%
Total	26996	6286	163	393	16049	734	137	1866	52624	100%
% of County	51.30%	11.95%	0.31%	0.75%	30.50%	1.39%	0.26%	3.55%	100%	
Ethnic %	-									
Precinct 1	47.52%	8.82%	0.29%	0.70%	38.72%	0.87%	0.29%	2.79%	100.00%	
Precinct 2	42.01%	21.56%	0.29%	0.51%	30.67%	1.16%	0.26%	3.52%	100.00%	
Precinct 3	50.29%	9.74%	0.30%	1.19%	31.18%	2.91%	0.24%	4.15%	100.00%	
Precinct 4	65.32%	8.58%	0.36%	0.58%	20.37%	0.72%	0.24%	3.83%	100.00%	
Voting Age Ethnic/Racial Data	Anglo	Black	Am. Ind.	Asian	Hispanic	Haw/Pac Is	Other	Multi	Totals	9/
Precinct 1	5543	969	42	79	3546	82	29	264	Totals 10554	26.900/
Precinct 2	4255	2002	33	53	2386	96	15	273	9113	26.89%
Precinct 3	5371	954	33	114	2549	252	25	335	9633	23.22%
Precinct 4	6905	848	28	64	1699	52	25	327	9948	
Total	22074	4773	136	310	10180	482	94			25.35%
% of County	56.24%	12.16%	0.35%	0.79%	25.94%	1.23%	0.24%	3.05%	39248	100%
Voting Age %	30.2476	12.1070	0.33%	0.79%	23.94%	1.23%	0.24%	3.05%	100%	
Voting Age 76										

# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE/CONSTABLE PRECINCTS

	Actual Pop.	Ideal Pop.	Deviate	Relative Deviation	
Precinct 1	14669	13156	1513	11.50%	
Precinct 2	12234	13156	-922	-7.01%	
Precinct 3	12744	13156	-412	-3.13%	
Precinct 4	12977	13156	-179	-1.36%	
Total	52624	52624			

Ethnic/	Racial	Data-	lotal

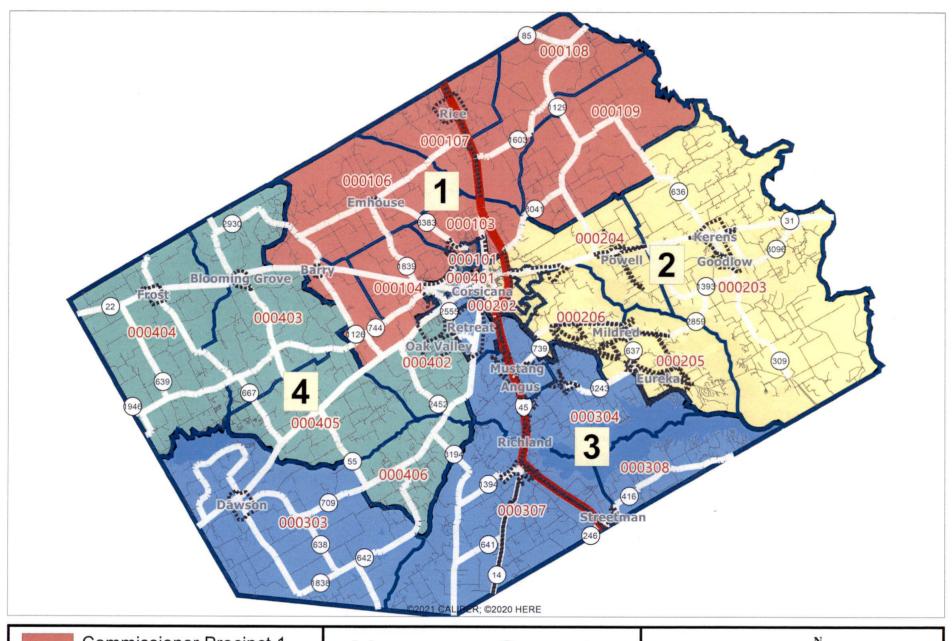
	Anglo	Black	Am. Ind.	Asian	Hispanic	Haw/Pac Is	Other	Multi	Totals	%
Precinct 1	6971	1294	42	103	5680	127	43	409	14669	27.88%
Precinct 2	5140	2638	36	63	3752	142	32	431	12234	23.25%
Precinct 3	6409	1241	38	152	3973	371	31	529	12744	24.22%
Precinct 4	8476	1113	47	75	2644	94	31	497	12977	24.66%
Total	26996	6286	163	393	16049	734	137	1866	52624	100%
% of County	51.30%	11.95%	0.31%	0.75%	30.50%	1.39%	0.26%	3.55%	100%	
Ethnic %			***							
Precinct 1	47.52%	8.82%	0.29%	0.70%	38.72%	0.87%	0.29%	2.79%	100.00%	
Precinct 2	42.01%	21.56%	0.29%	0.51%	30.67%	1.16%	0.26%	3.52%	100.00%	
Precinct 3	50.29%	9.74%	0.30%	1.19%	31.18%	2.91%	0.24%	4.15%	100.00%	
Precinct 4	65.32%	8.58%	0.36%	0.58%	20.37%	0.72%	0.24%	3.83%	100.00%	

Voting Age Ethnic/Racial Data	Anglo	Black	Am. Ind.	Asian	Hispanic	Haw/Pac Is	Other	Multi	Totals	%
Precinct 1	5543	969	42	79	3546	82	29	264	10554	26.89%
Precinct 2	4255	2002	33	53	2386	96	15	273	9113	23.22%
Precinct 3	5371	954	. 33	114	2549	252	25	335	9633	24.54%
Precinct 4	6905	848	28	64	1699	52	25	327	9948	25.35%
Total	22074	4773	136	310	10180	482	94	1199	39248	100%
% of County	56.24%	12.16%	0.35%	0.79%	25.94%	1.23%	0.24%	3.05%	100%	
Voting Age %									•	
Precinct 1	52.52%	9.18%	0.40%	0.75%	33.60%	0.78%	0.27%	2.50%	100.00%	
Precinct 2	46.69%	21.97%	0.36%	0.58%	26.18%	1.05%	0.16%	3.00%	100.00%	
Precinct 3	55.76%	9.90%	0.34%	1.18%	26.46%	2.62%	0.26%	3.48%	100.00%	
Precinct 4	69.41%	8.52%	0.28%	0.64%	17.08%	0.52%	0.25%	3.29%	100.00%	

# TAB C

# NAVARRO COUNTY EXISTING POLITICAL BOUNDARIES IN MAP FORM

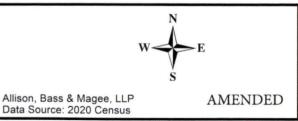
# MAP 1 DEPICTION OF EXISTING COMMISSIONERS COURT PRECINCTS And VOTING/ELECTION PRECINCTS

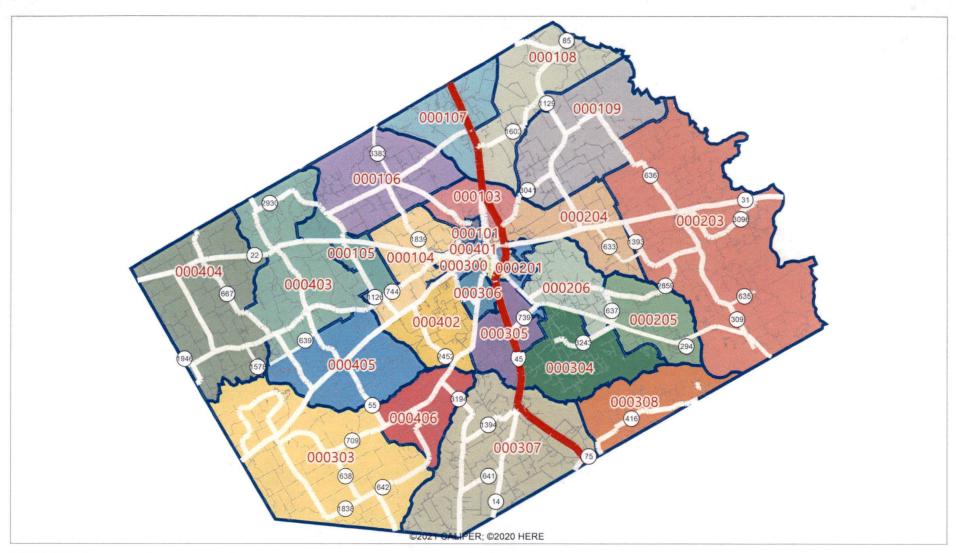


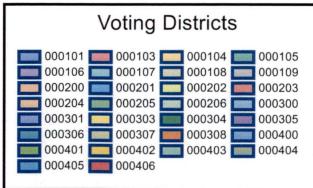


# **Navarro County**

Initial Assessment Commissioner Precincts







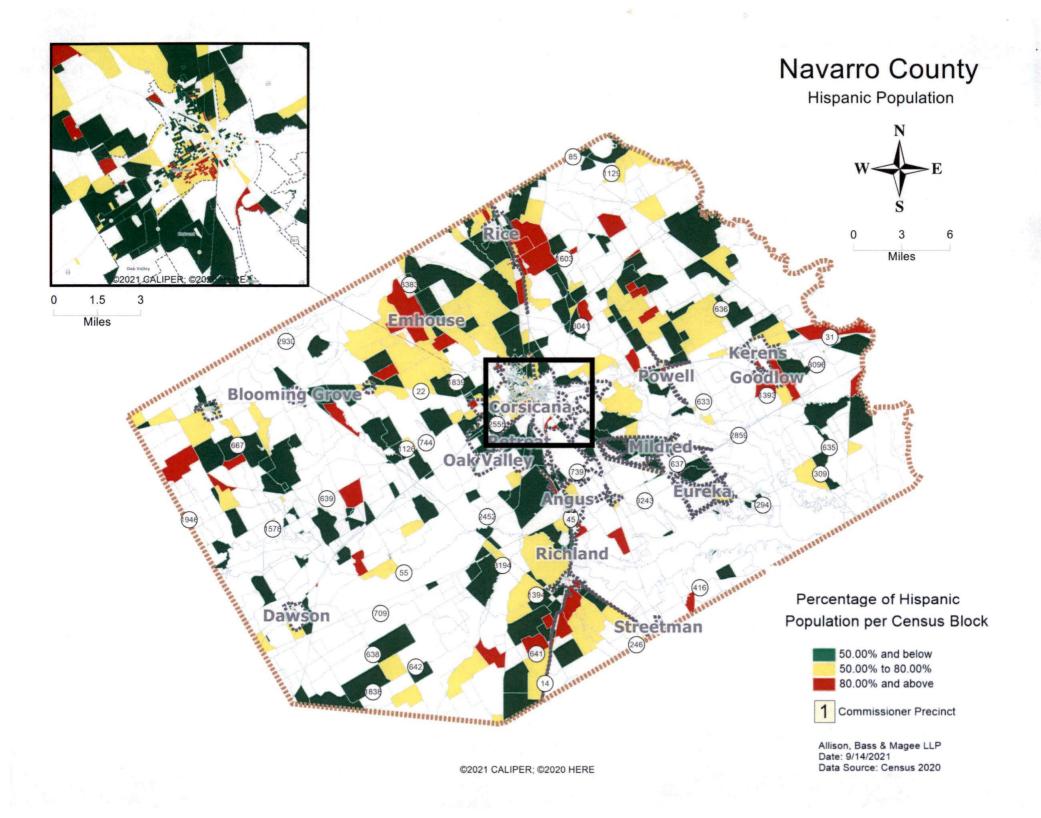
# **Navarro County**

Initial Assessment
Voting Districts

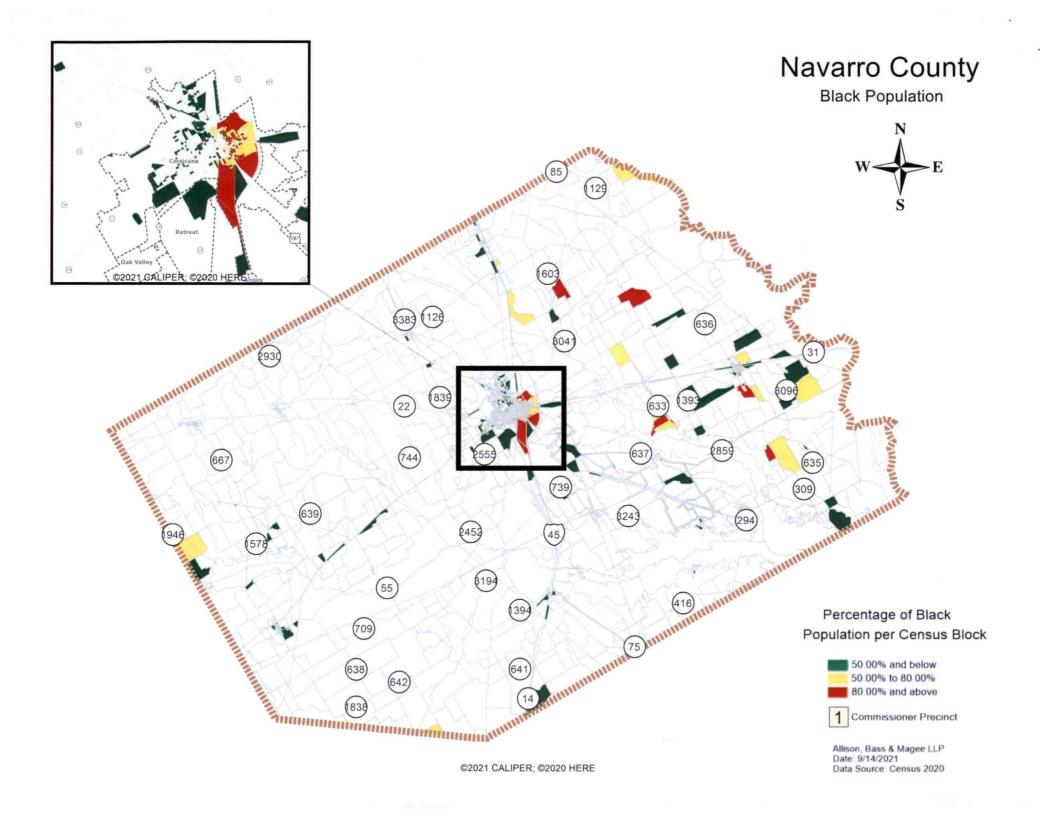


Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP Data Source: 2020 Census

# MAP 2 HISPANIC POPULATION



# MAP 3 BLACK POPULATION



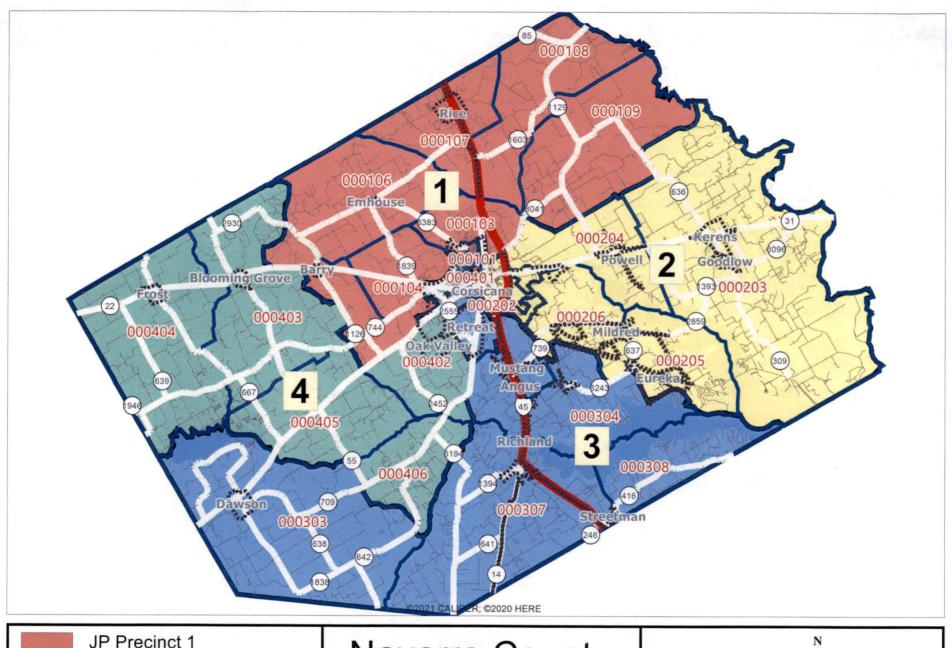
## MAP 4

## OTHER MINORITY POPULATION

NOTE: If "Other" minority populations within Navarro County do not equal or exceed five percent (5%), this portion of the population will not be depicted in map form.

## MAP 5

## JUSTICE/CONSTABLE PRECINCTS





# Navarro County

Initial Assessment JP Precincts

