

COMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING

Working Session – September 20, 2022

<https://www.boston.gov/public-notices/15921641>



COUNCILOR LIZ BREADON, CHAIR

COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL, VICE CHAIR

Presentation updated following the working session with the addition of demographic data and to reflect discussion among Councilors reconciling split precincts to baseline districts as a starting point for the ongoing redistricting process



The Boston Board of Election Commissioners adjusted select voting precincts in 2021 in conjunction with State congressional and legislative redistricting. The Board further completed the reprecincting process in April 2022, increasing the total number of precincts in the City from 255 to 275.

Guidelines used by the Board of Election Commissioners

- *Wards with precincts containing more than 3,000 registered voters were considered for review.*
- *Census block groups within each Ward were used to create precincts.*
- *Aimed to keep precincts at 2,000 voters within a margin of +/- 10%*
 - *Adjustments were made to certain precincts in order to eliminate sub-precincts caused by state legislative redistricting.*
- *Precinct boundaries determined using linear features such as roadways, railroads, waterways, and/or other easily identifiable features.*
- *Use of projected residential growth taken into consideration.*

NEW PRECINCTS SPLIT BETWEEN CURRENT DISTRICTS



There are **16 “split precincts”** which now cross into 2 or 3 current Council districts.

They must be moved as a whole during 2022 City Council redistricting.

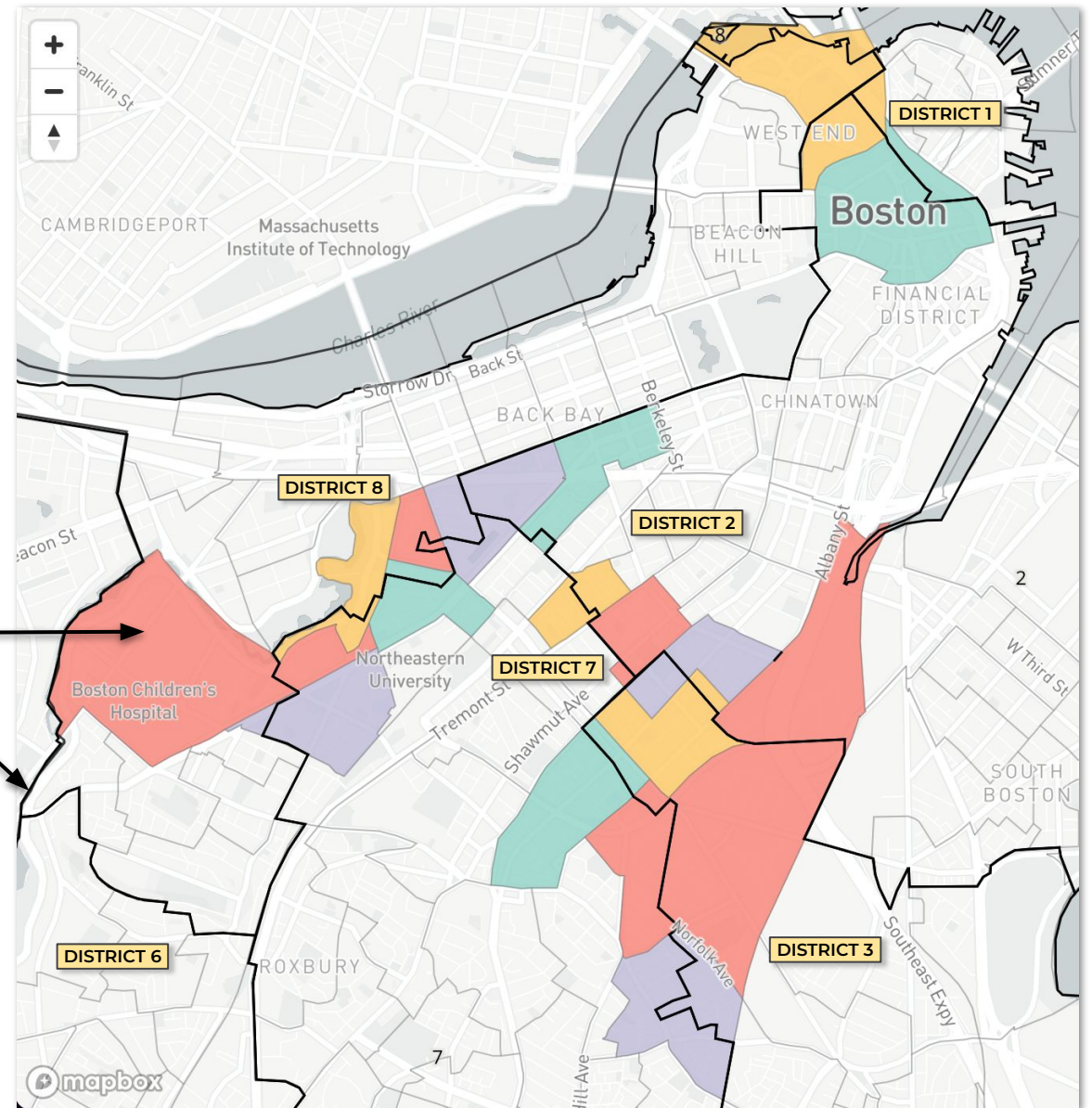
The precincts are in **Wards 3, 4, 8, and 9**, and are in current **Districts 1, 2, 3, 7, and 8**.

They have a **total population of 50,226**.

Each **solid color shape** represents a single precinct as of 2022.

The **black lines** represent current City Council district boundaries drawn in 2012, in effect for municipal elections from 2013-2021, to be replaced by redistricting.

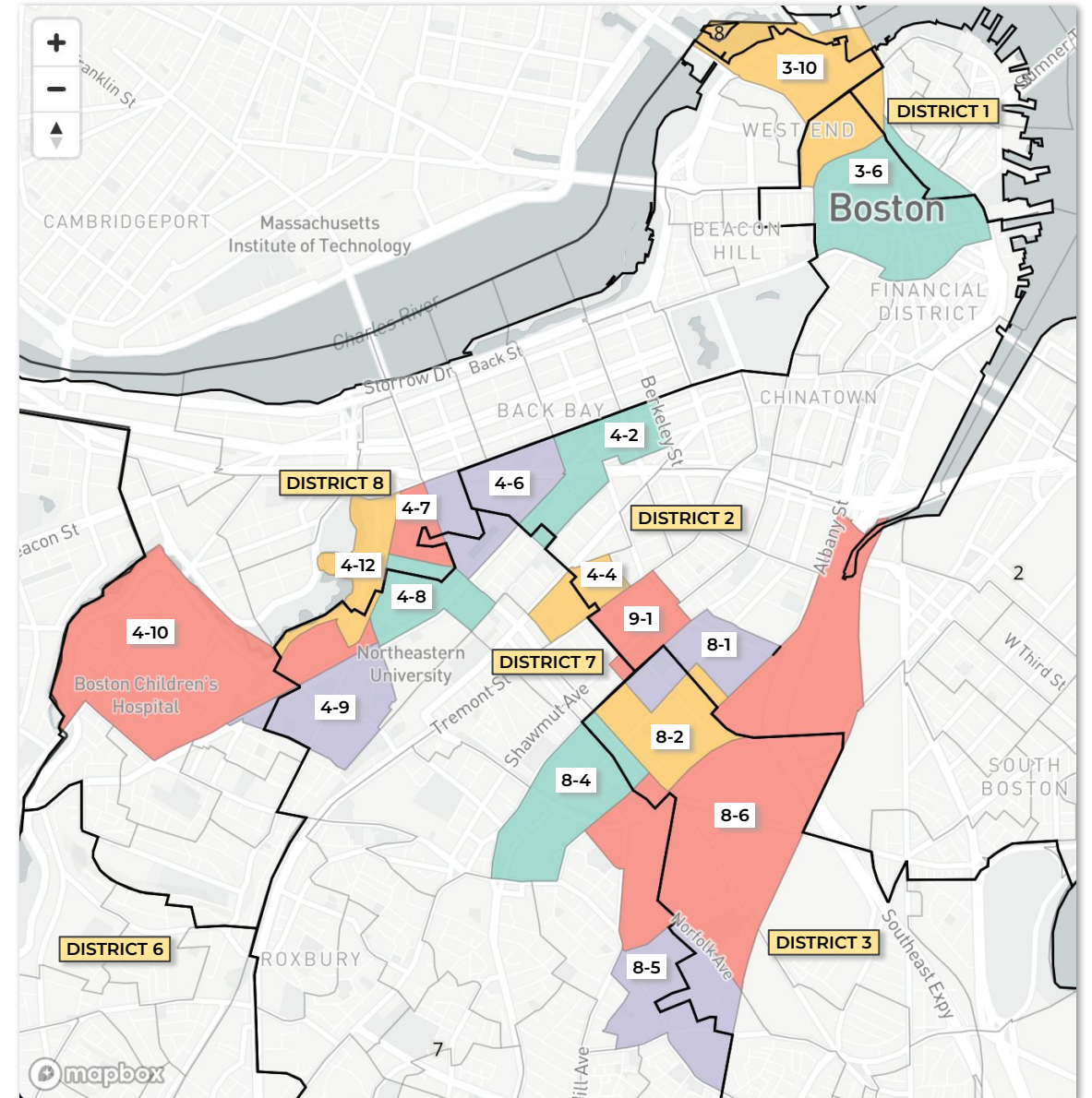
2022 City Council redistricting must assign each of the 275 voting precincts to a district as a whole. The borders of current districts will be replaced with new borders according to the boundaries of precincts at the edge of a district. These new districts will be effective for municipal elections from 2023-2031.



NEW PRECINCTS SPLIT BETWEEN CURRENT DISTRICTS



W-P	Neighborhood	2012-2022 Districts*	Census Blocks*	Total Pop.*	Age 18+ (VAP)*	Reg. Voters (May 2022)*
3-6	Downtown	1, 2	65	1,844	1,745	1,402
3-10	West End	1, 2, 8	37	3,284	3,022	2,604
4-2	Back Bay	2, 7	18	1,964	1,812	1,515
4-4	South End	2, 7	15	2,360	2,056	2,113
4-6	Back Bay	2, 7	19	3,390	3,210	1,560
4-7	Fenway/Symp.	2, 7, 8	12	3,179	3,041	1,604
4-8	Fenway/Symp.	7, 8	22	5,832	5,685	1,896
4-9	Mission Hill	7, 8	16	4,863	4,630	800
4-10	LMA/Fenway	7, 8	42	6,094	5,983	645
4-12	Fenway	7, 8	17	2,215	2,139	623
8-1	South End	2, 3	16	2,687	2,288	1,826
8-2	South End	2, 3	14	2,199	1,977	1,993
8-4	Roxbury	3, 7	35	2,826	2,420	1,723
8-5	Roxbury	3, 7	32	3,091	2,361	1,893
8-6	Rox./S. Bay	2, 3, 7	90	1,700	1,574	1,230
9-1	South End	2, 7	26	2,698	2,295	2,211

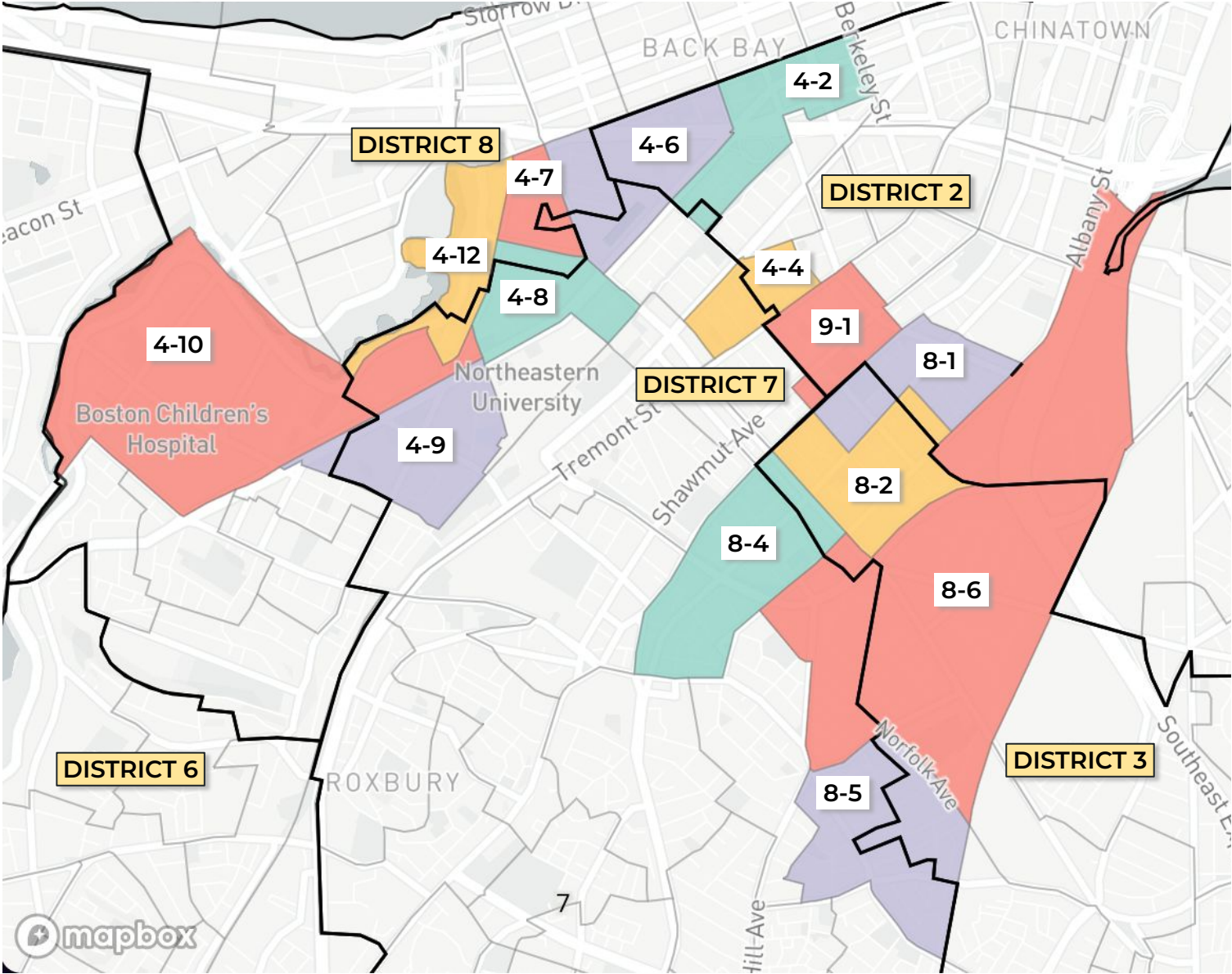


*Information on proportional share of population per district within a split precinct is not yet available; only rough census block tallies. A census block is the smallest geographic unit used by the U.S. Census Bureau for tabulation of statistical data; they are not delineated based on population or land area.

The objective of the working session is for City Councilors to review the adjusted precincts which became **“split” precincts** when overlaying current district lines.

Councilors will then tentatively “assign” each of the 16 split precincts into an adjacent district based on general consensus, such that all 275 precincts of the City are wholly within a single City Council district.

The reconciled districts will then become a **“baseline” starting point** for further consideration of potential precinct shifts through the redistricting process.



COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST (COIs)



A **community of interest (COI)** is a group of people with shared concerns, interests, and characteristics, who would benefit from being maintained in a single district. Every COI is unique; they might be formed around neighborhoods or the physical landscape, cultures, values, and many other things. Because of these shared interests and concerns, a common redistricting criteria is that COIs be considered.

Ward 4, Precinct 4 – District 7

Frederick Douglass Apts

(Boston Housing Authority)

Adjacent COI: BHA Washington Manor (9-2)

BHA Lenox-Camden (9-3)

BHA Hampton House (9-6)

Ward 8, Precinct 1 – Districts 2, 3

Cathedral/Ruth Barkley Apts

(Boston Housing Authority)

Franklin Square Apts - 11 E. Newton St.

(Senior housing, Preservation of Affordable Housing)

St. Helena's House - 89 Union Park

(Senior housing, Maloney Properties)

Ward 9, Precinct 1 – District 2

Torre Unidad/Unity Tower

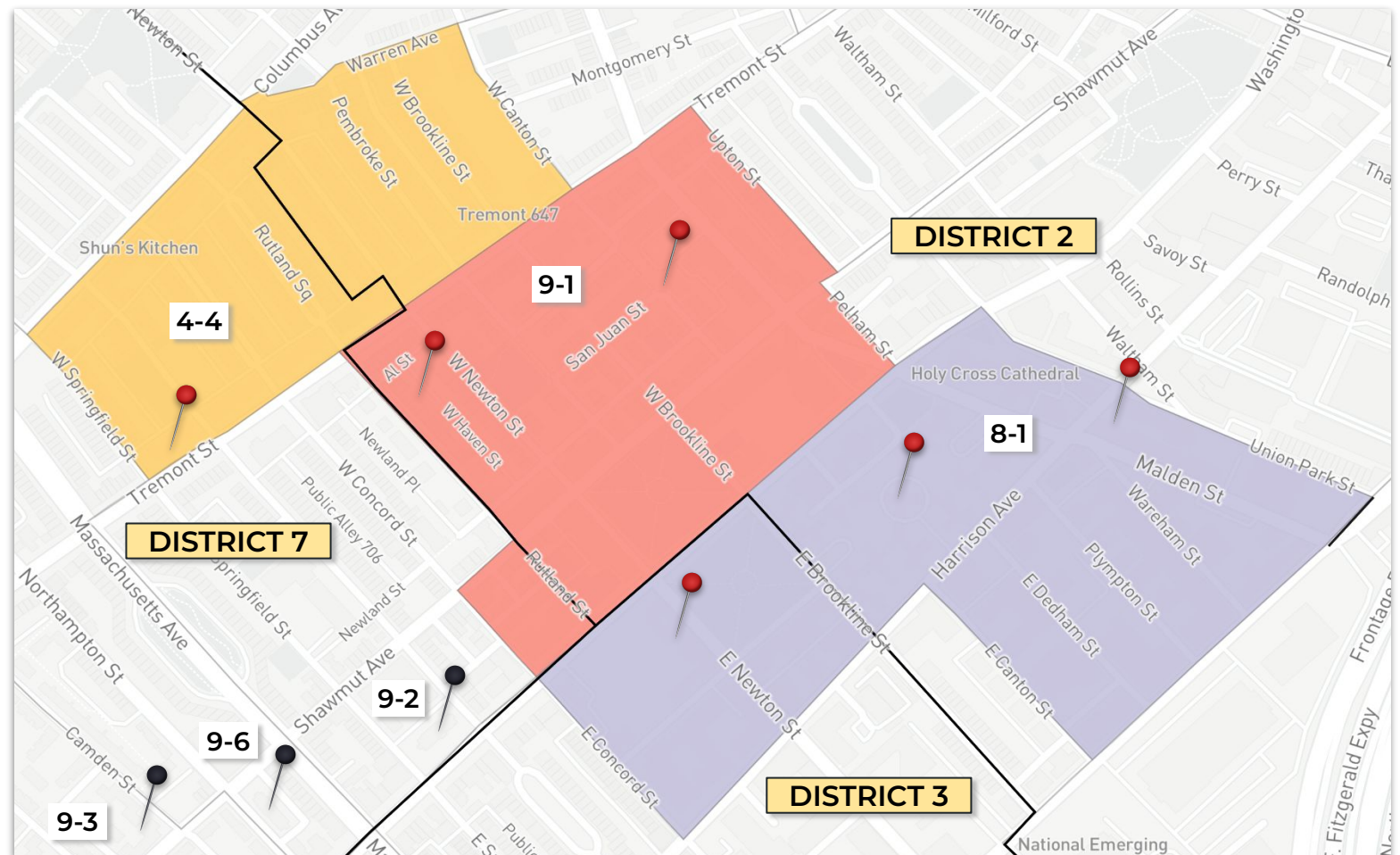
(Boston Housing Authority)

Villa Victoria Community

(Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción)

Rutland/E. Springfield Apts

(Boston Housing Authority)



COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST (COIs)



A **community of interest (COI)** is a group of people with shared concerns, interests, and characteristics, who would benefit from being maintained in a single district. Every COI is unique; they might be formed around neighborhoods or the physical landscape, cultures, values, and many other things. Because of these shared interests and concerns, a common redistricting criteria is that COIs be considered.

Ward 4, Precinct 2 – District 2

BHA St. Botolph Apts
(Boston Housing Authority)

Ward 4, Precinct 7 – District 8

Morville House
(Boston Housing Authority)

Westland/Burbank
(Fenway CDC/BHA rehab)

Ward 4, Precinct 8 – District 7

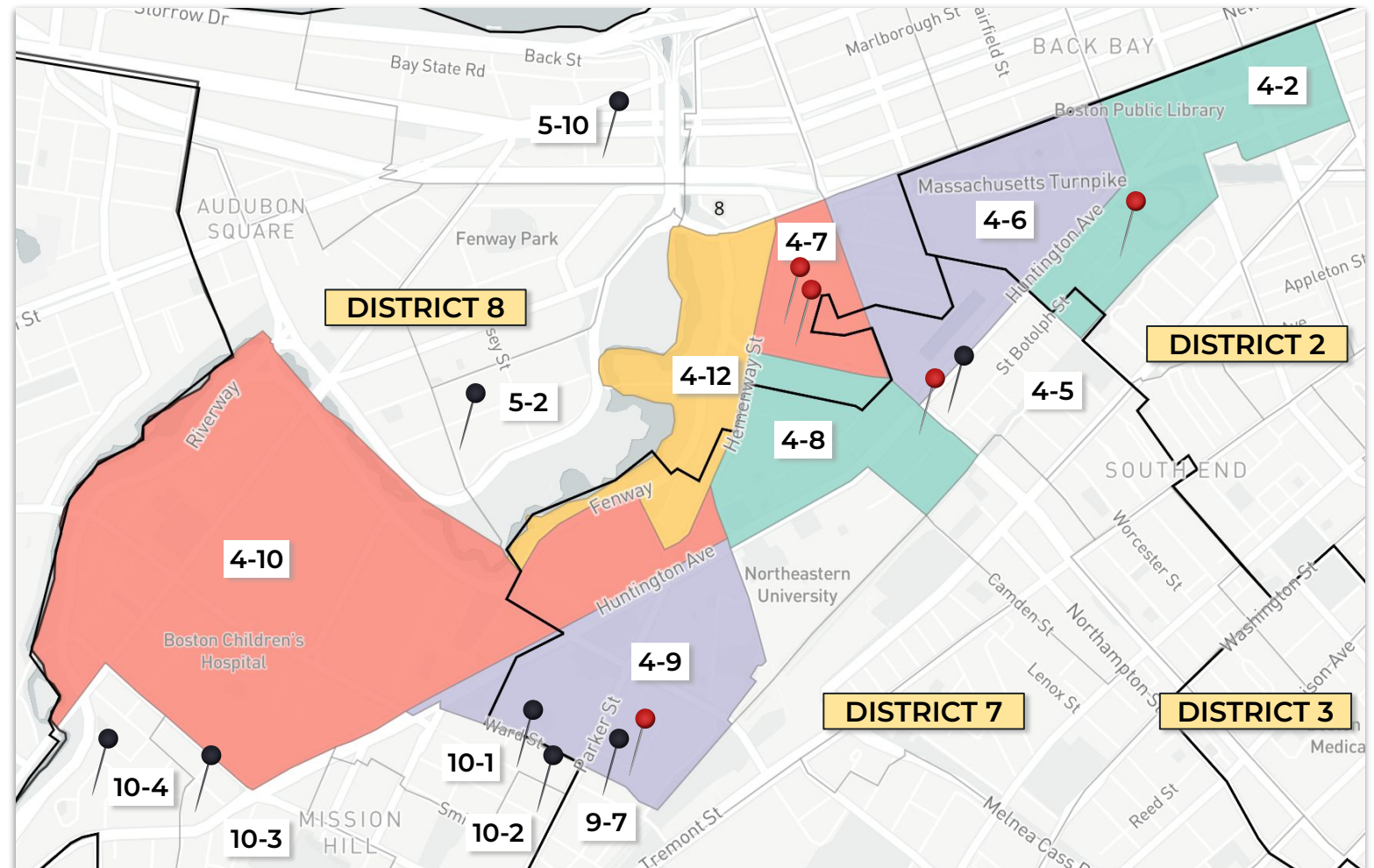
Symphony Plaza West, 333 Mass Ave.
(Retirement Housing Foundation)
Adjacent COI: Symphony East, 334 Mass Ave. (4-5)

Ward 4, Precinct 9 – District 7

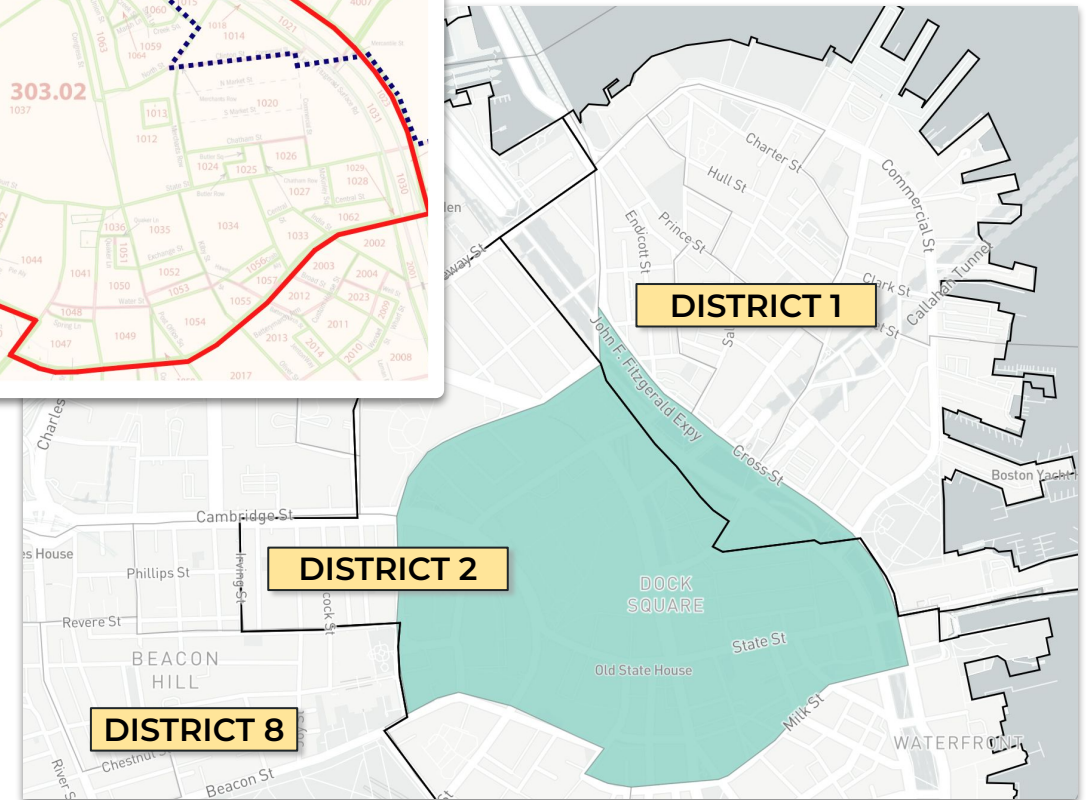
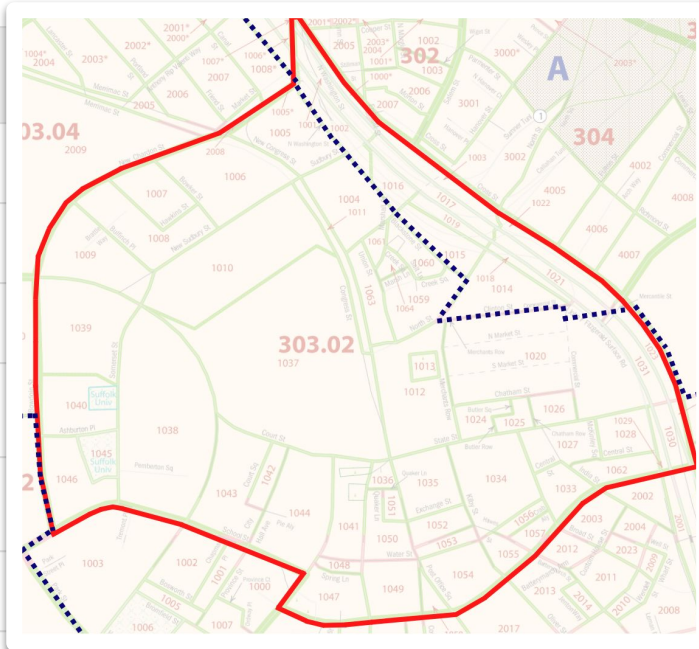
Alice Heyward Taylor Apts (2 precincts)
(Boston Housing Authority)
Adjacent COI: BHA Alice Taylor (9-7), District 7

Adjacent Communities of Interest

Mission Main (10-1, 10-2), District 8
BHA Fenwood (10-3), District 8
RTH Mission Park (10-4), District 8
St. Cecilia's House (5-2), District 8
POAH Kenmore Abbey (5-10), District 8



SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 3



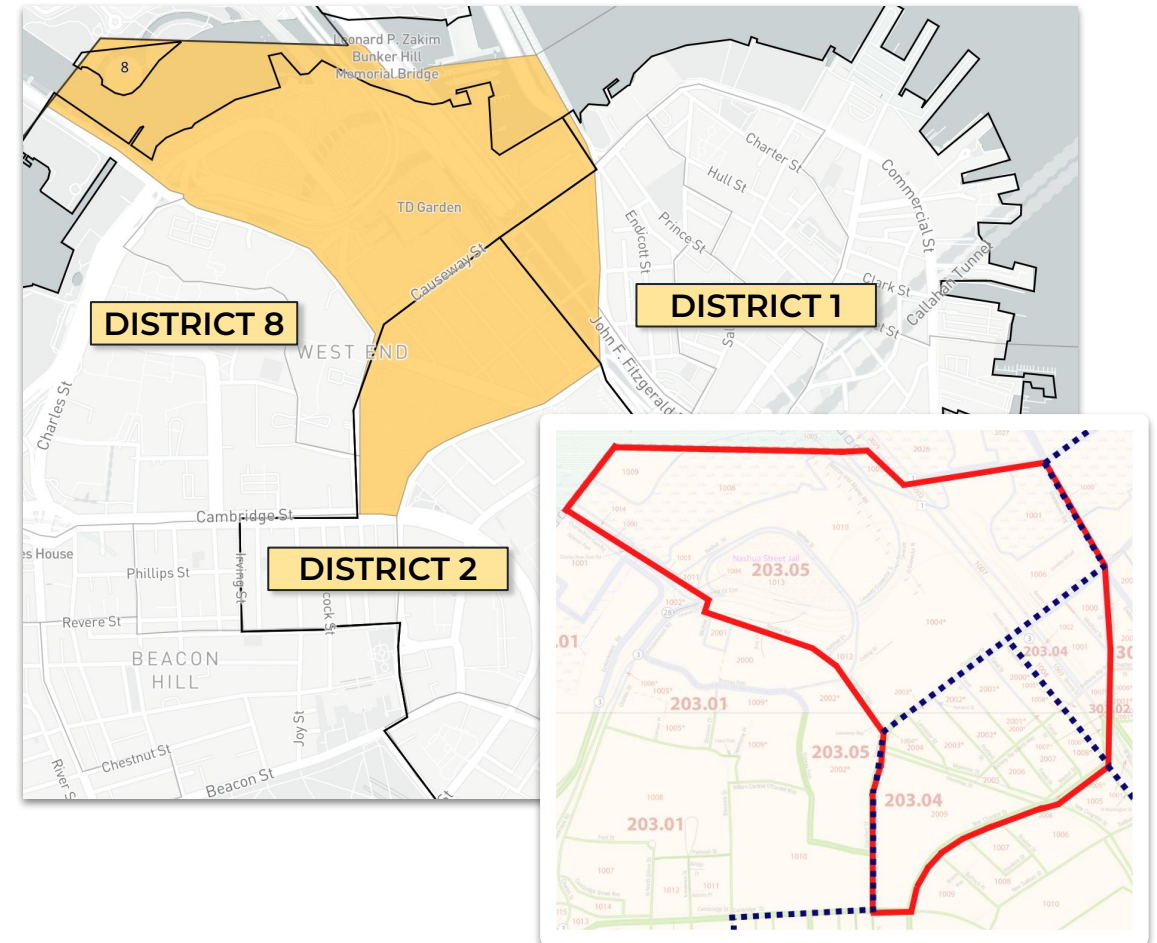
<i>Ward 3, Precinct 6</i>	
Previous Precincts	1, 3, 4, 6
Current Districts	1, 2
Census blocks	65 – 12 in D1, 53 in D2
Total Population	1,844 70% White; 6% Black; 9% Hispanic; 11% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	1,745 71% White; 6% Black; 8% Hispanic; 11% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	1,402
Polling Location	City Hall
Neighborhood	Downtown
COIs	
Reference Points	City Hall, Rose Kennedy Greenway
Boundaries	Cross St./Surface Rd., Milk St., School St., Beacon St., Bowdoin St., New Chardon St.

SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 3



Ward 3, Precinct 10

Previous Precincts	4, 5, 6
Current Districts	1, 2, 8
Census blocks	37 – 10 in D1, 10 in D2, 17 in D8
Total Population	3,284 65% White; 5% Black; 9% Hispanic; 15% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	3,022 66% White; 5% Black; 8% Hispanic; 16% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	2,604
Polling Location	City Hall
Neighborhood	West End
COIs	
Reference Points	Nashua St. Jail, Zakim Bridge, TD Garden, Brooke Courthouse, Hurley Building
Boundaries	N. Washington St., New Chardon St., Staniford St., Lomasney Way, Martha Rd., Industrial Park Rd.

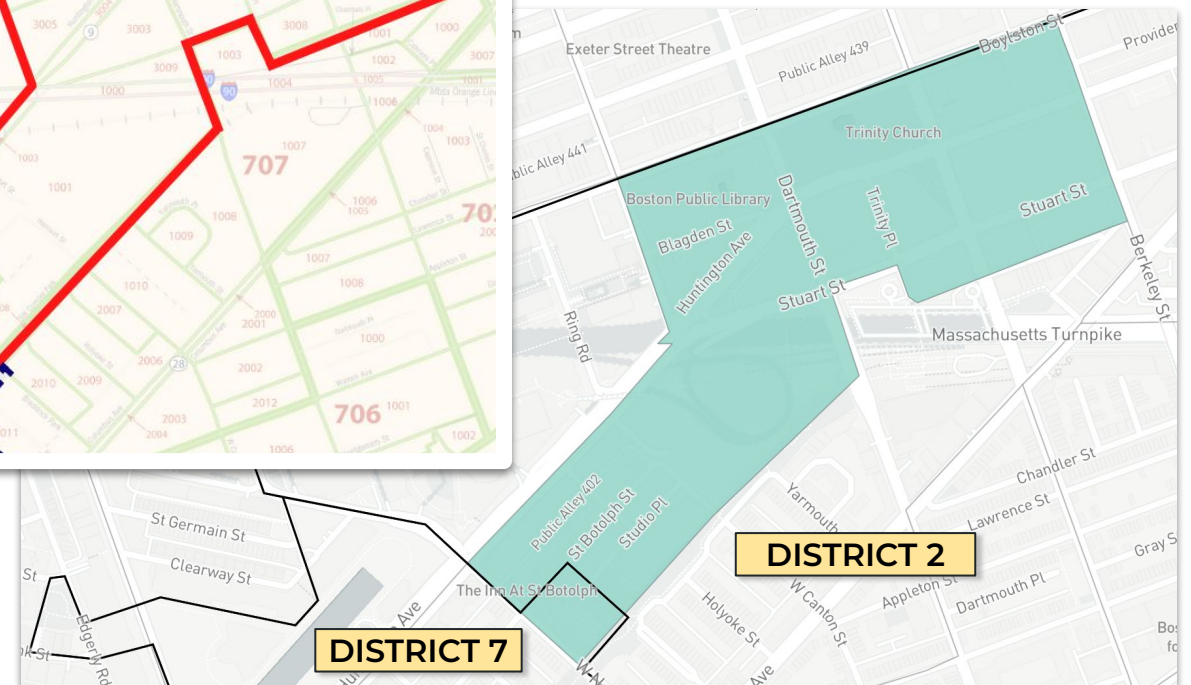
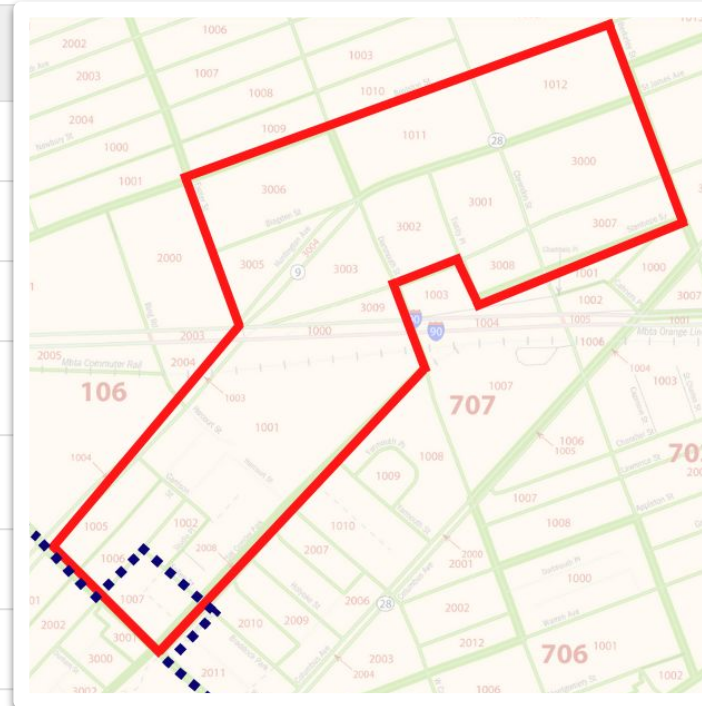


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 4



Ward 4, Precinct 2

Previous Precincts	2, 5
Current Districts	2, 7
Census blocks	18 – 17 in D2, 1 in D7
Total Population	1,964 67% White; 6% Black; 9% Hispanic; 13% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	1,812 69% White; 6% Black; 8% Hispanic; 13% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	1,515
Polling Location	BPL Copley Square Library
Neighborhood	Back Bay
COIs	BHA St. Botolph
Reference Points	BPL Central Library, Copley Place, Copley Sq., Fairmount, Trinity Church, Westin
Boundaries	Boylston St., Berkeley St., Dartmouth St., SW. Corridor Path, W. Newton St., Huntington Ave., Exeter St.

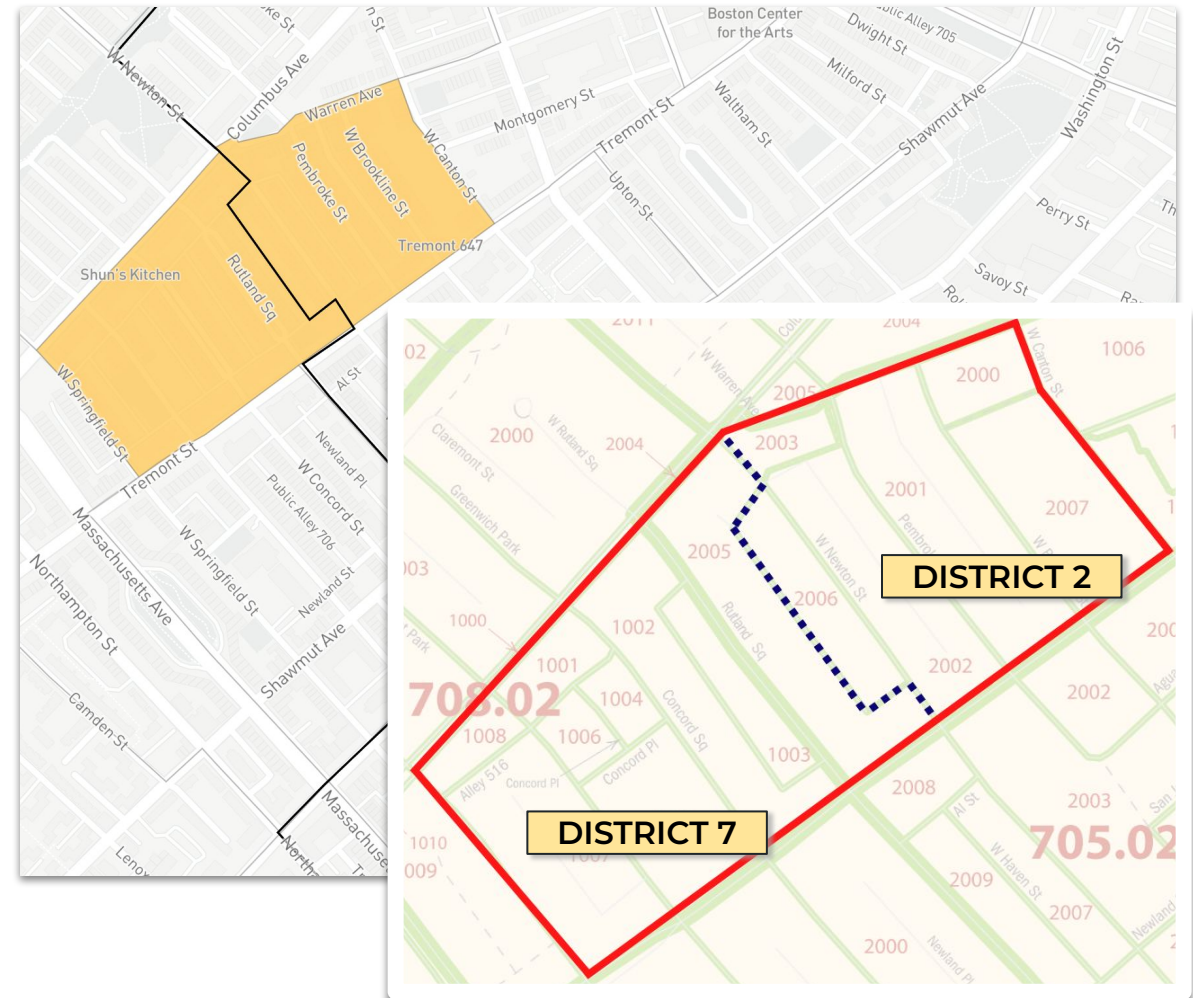


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 4



Ward 4, Precinct 4

Previous Precincts	1, 3, 4
Current Districts	2, 7
Census blocks	15 – 6 in D2, 9 in D7
Total Population	2,360 64% White; 15% Black; 9% Hispanic; 7% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	2,056 65% White; 14% Black; 9% Hispanic; 7% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	2,113
Polling Location	BHA Frederick Douglass Apts
Neighborhood	South End
COIs	BHA Frederick Douglass Apts, adjacent to BHA properties Washington Manor (9-2), Lenox-Camden (9-3), Hampton House (9-6)
Reference Points	Adjacent to Titus Sparrow Park
Boundaries	Columbus Ave., Warren Ave., W. Canton St., Tremont St., W. Springfield St.

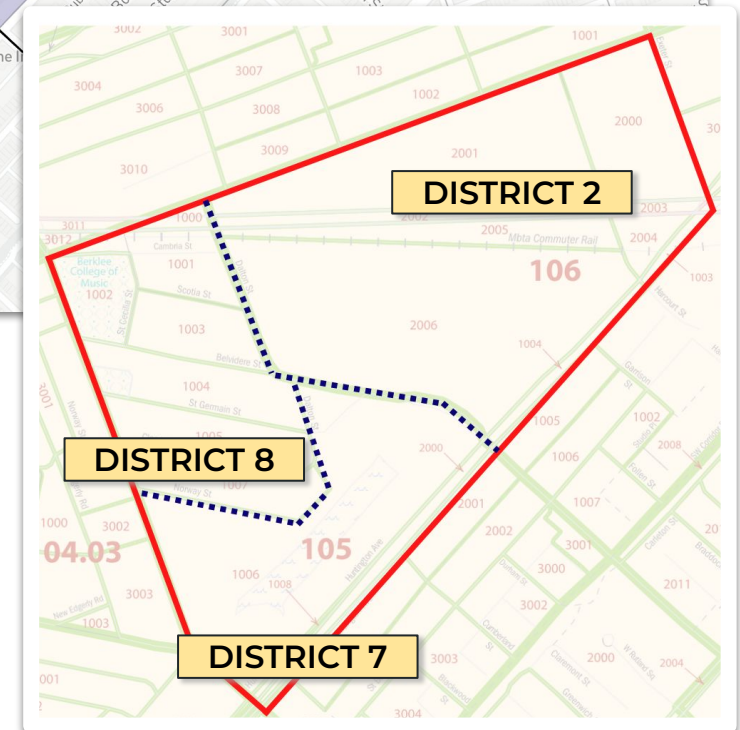
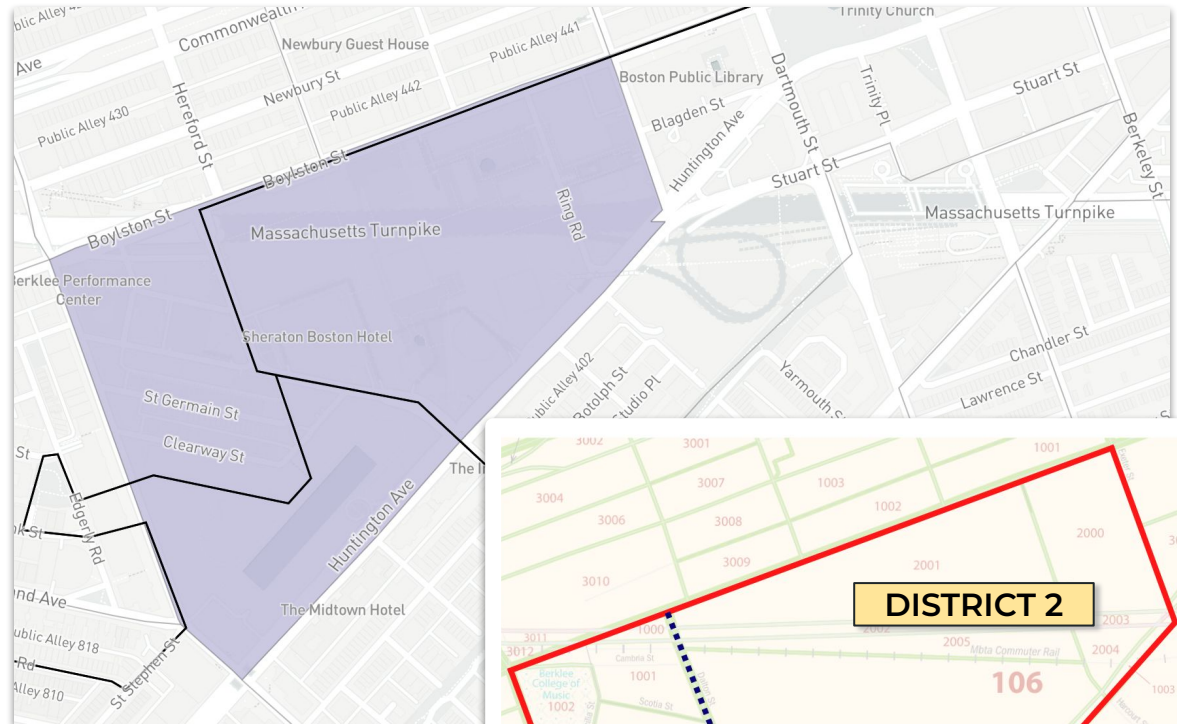


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 4



Ward 4, Precinct 6

Previous Precincts	2, 5, 6
Current Districts	2, 7, 8
Census blocks	19 – 9 in D2, 3 in D7, 7 in D8
Total Population	3,390 65% White; 5% Black; 8% Hispanic; 18% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	3,210 65% White; 5% Black; 8% Hispanic; 18% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	1,560
Polling Location	Fenway Center
Neighborhood	Back Bay
COIs	
Reference Points	Berklee Performance Center, Christian Science Plaza, Hilton, Prudential Tower, Sheraton, St. Francis Chapel
Boundaries	Boylston St., Exeter St., Huntington Ave., Massachusetts Ave.

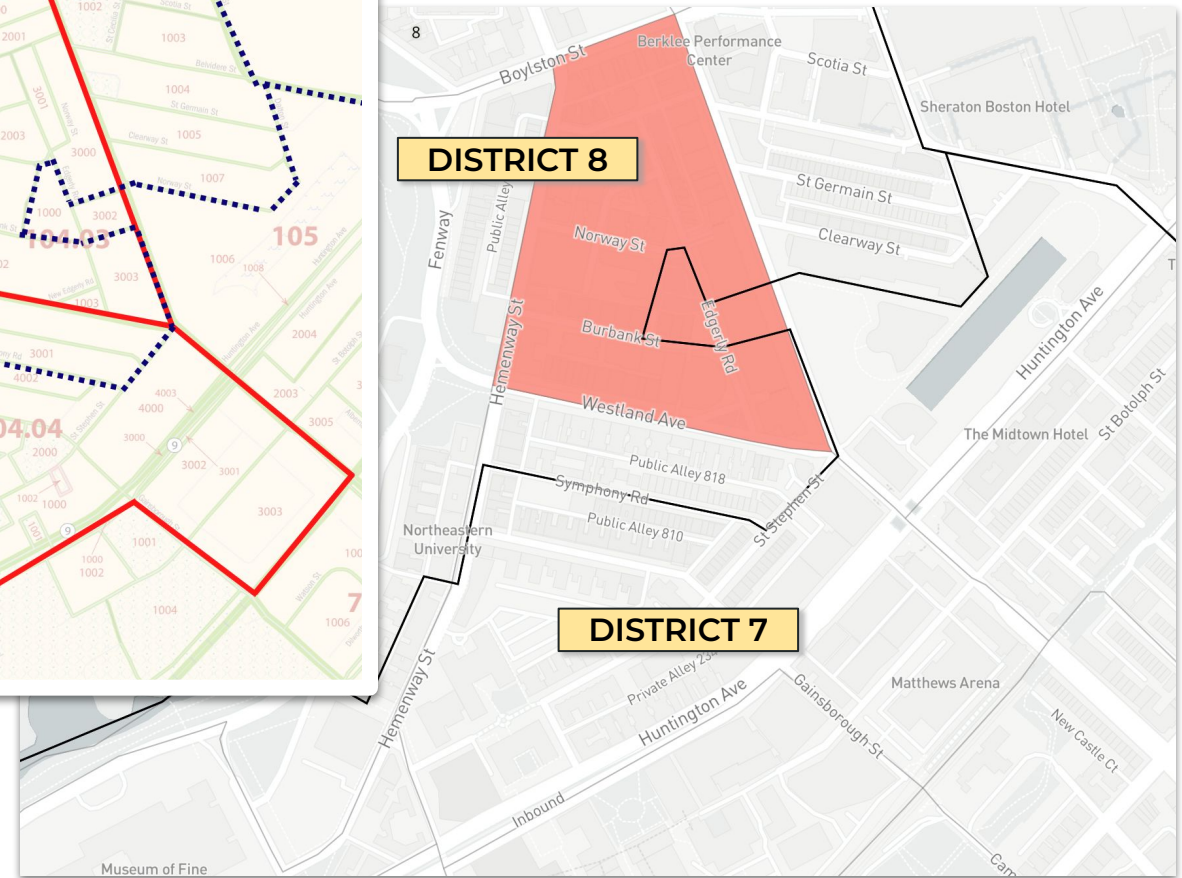
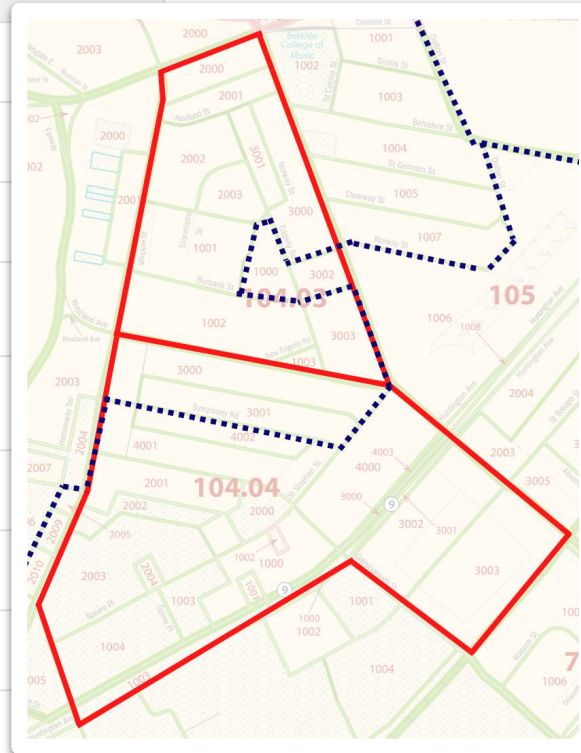


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 4



Ward 4, Precinct 7

Previous Precincts	5, 6, 7
Current Districts	7, 8
Census blocks	12 – 2 in D7, 10 in D8
Total Population	3,179 49% White; 8% Black; 10% Hispanic; 27% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	3,041 50% White; 8% Black; 9% Hispanic; 28% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	1,604
Polling Location	Fenway Center
Neighborhood	Fenway/Symphony
COIs	BHA Westland/Burbank, BHA Morville House
Reference Points	Symphony Community Park, Dickson Park, Edgerly Rd. Playground
Boundaries	Boylston St., Massachusetts Ave., Westland Ave., Hemenway St.

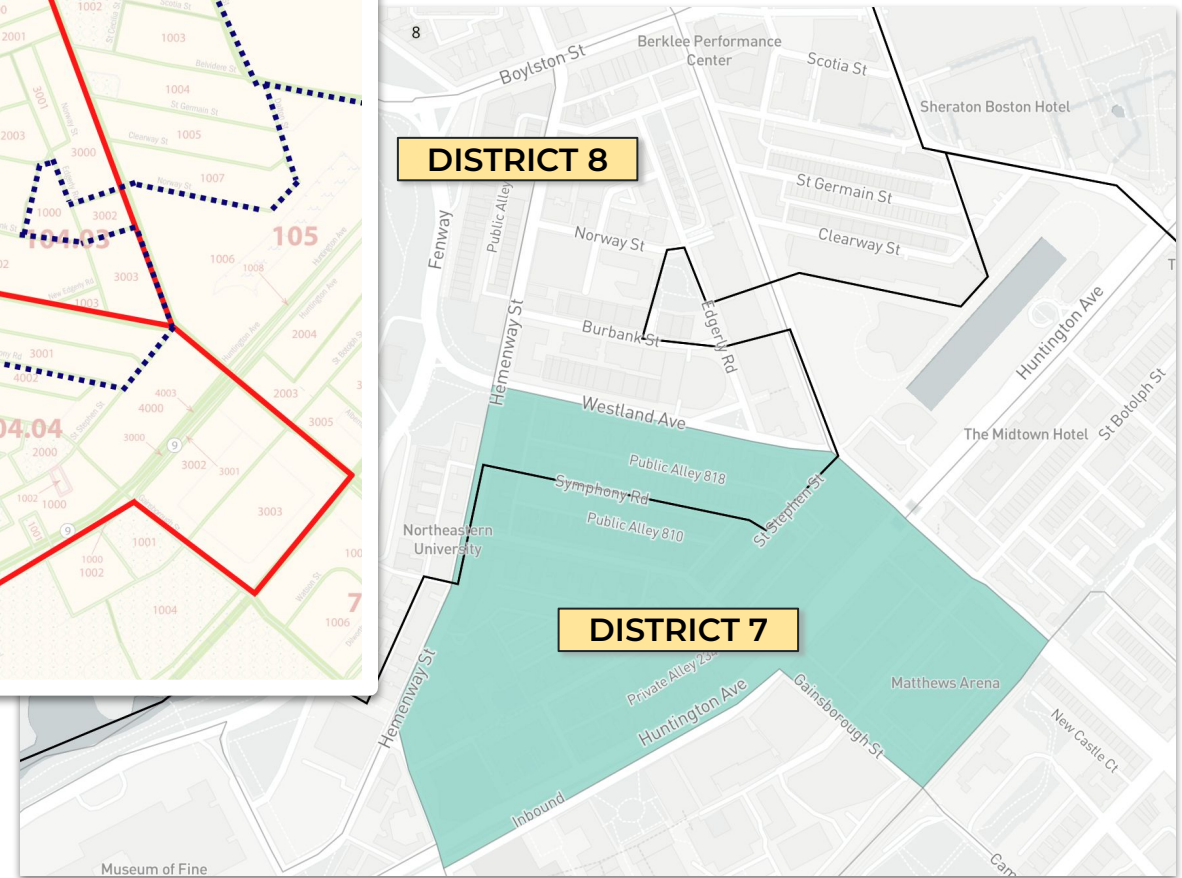
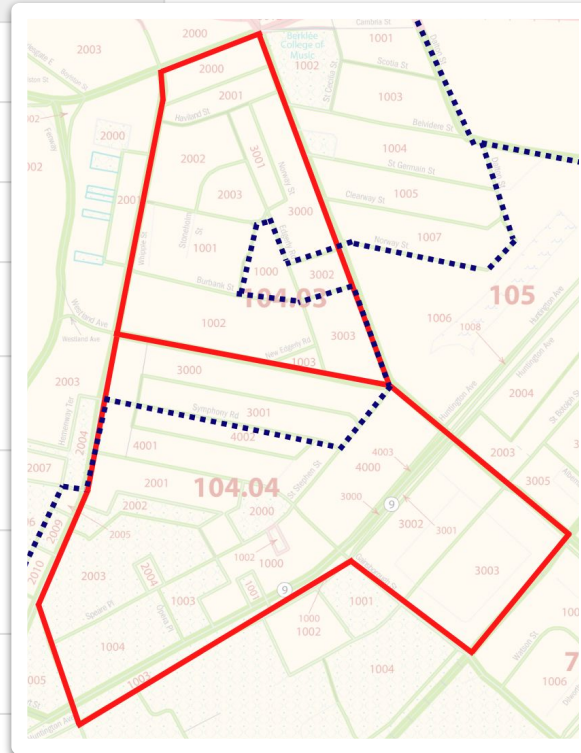


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 4



Ward 4, Precinct 8

Previous Precincts	7, 8
Current Districts	7, 8
Census blocks	22 – 20 in D7, 2 in D8
Total Population	5,832 54% White; 7% Black; 10% Hispanic; 24% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	5,685 55% White; 7% Black; 10% Hispanic; 24% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	1,896
Polling Location	Symphony Plaza West (333 Mass. Ave)
Neighborhood	Fenway/Symphony
COIs	BHA Huntington House, Symphony Plaza West (1 of 2)
Reference Points	MBTA Mass Ave/Symphony, NEU Marino Recreation Center, NEU Matthews Arena, N.E. Conservatory, Symphony Hall
Boundaries	Westland Ave., Massachusetts Ave., SW. Corridor, Gainsborough St., Huntington Ave., Forsyth St., Hemenway St.

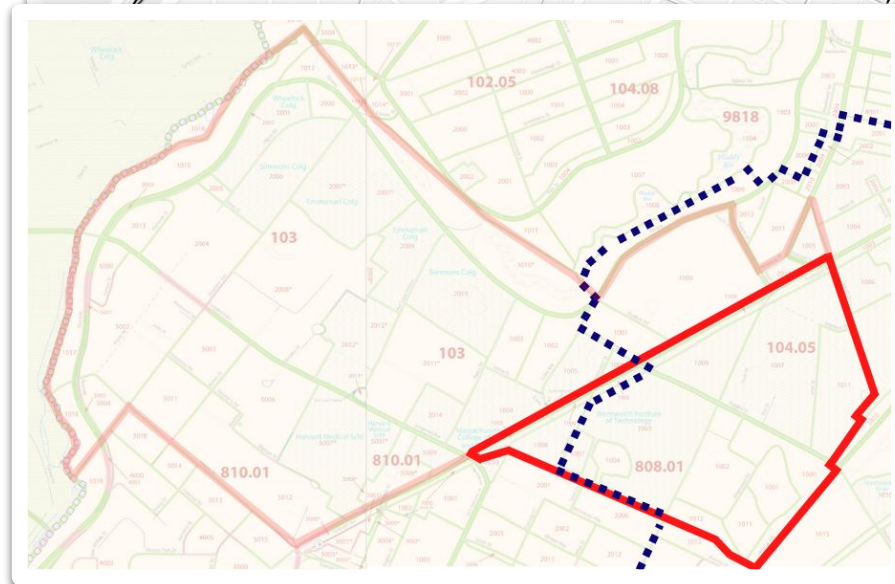
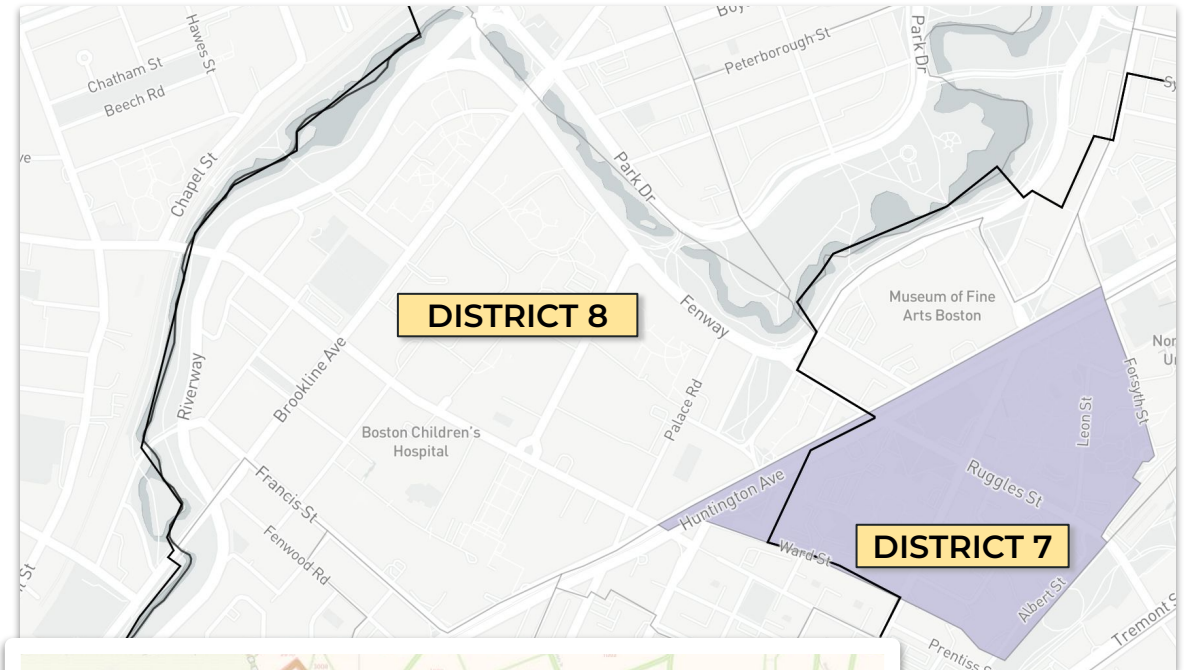


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 4



Ward 4, Precinct 9

Previous Precincts	9, 10
Current Districts	7, 8
Census blocks	16 – 12 in D7, 4 in D8
Total Population	4,863 58% White; 11% Black; 13% Hispanic; 11% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	4,630 60% White; 10% Black; 11% Hispanic; 12% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	800
Polling Location	Wentworth Inst. – Annex Central Bldg.
Neighborhood	Mission Hill/Fenway
COIs	BHA Alice Heyward Taylor Apts (and adjacent precinct 9-7)
Reference Points	MBTA Ruggles, Wentworth IT, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Boundaries	Huntington Ave., Forsyth St., SW. Corridor, Ward St.

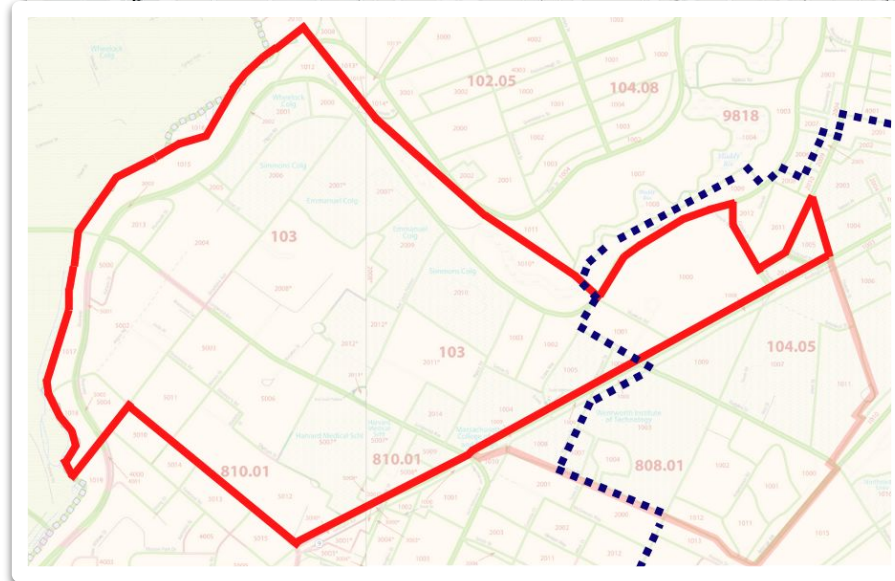
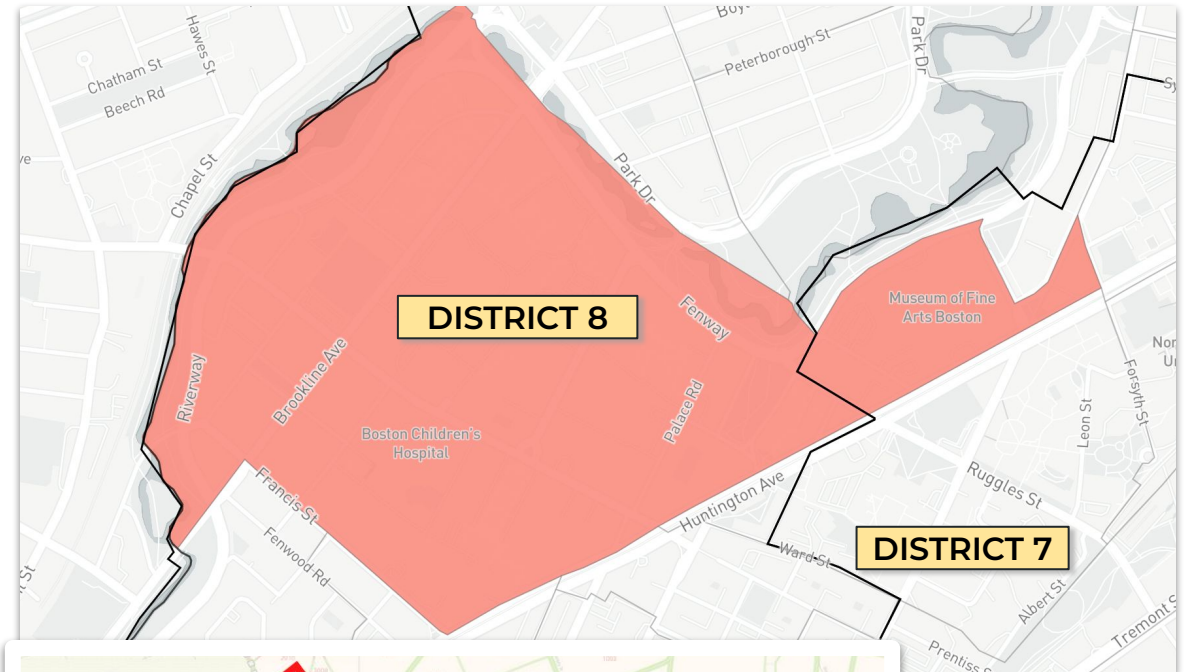


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 4



Ward 4, Precinct 10

Previous Precincts	9, 10
Current Districts	7, 8
Census blocks	42 – 4 in D7, 38 in D8
Total Population	6,094 65% White; 7% Black; 9% Hispanic; 16% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	5,983 66% White; 6% Black; 9% Hispanic; 16% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	645
Polling Location	Simmons University, Lefavour Hall and Beatley Library
Neighborhood	Longwood/Fenway
COIs	
Reference Points	Beth Israel, Boston Children's, Boston Latin School, BU Wheelock, Dana-Farber, Emmanuel College, Gardner Museum, Harvard Medical, Museum of Fine Arts
Boundaries	Riverway, Fenway, Forsyth Way, Hemenway St., Forsyth St., Huntington Ave., Francis St., Brookline Ave.

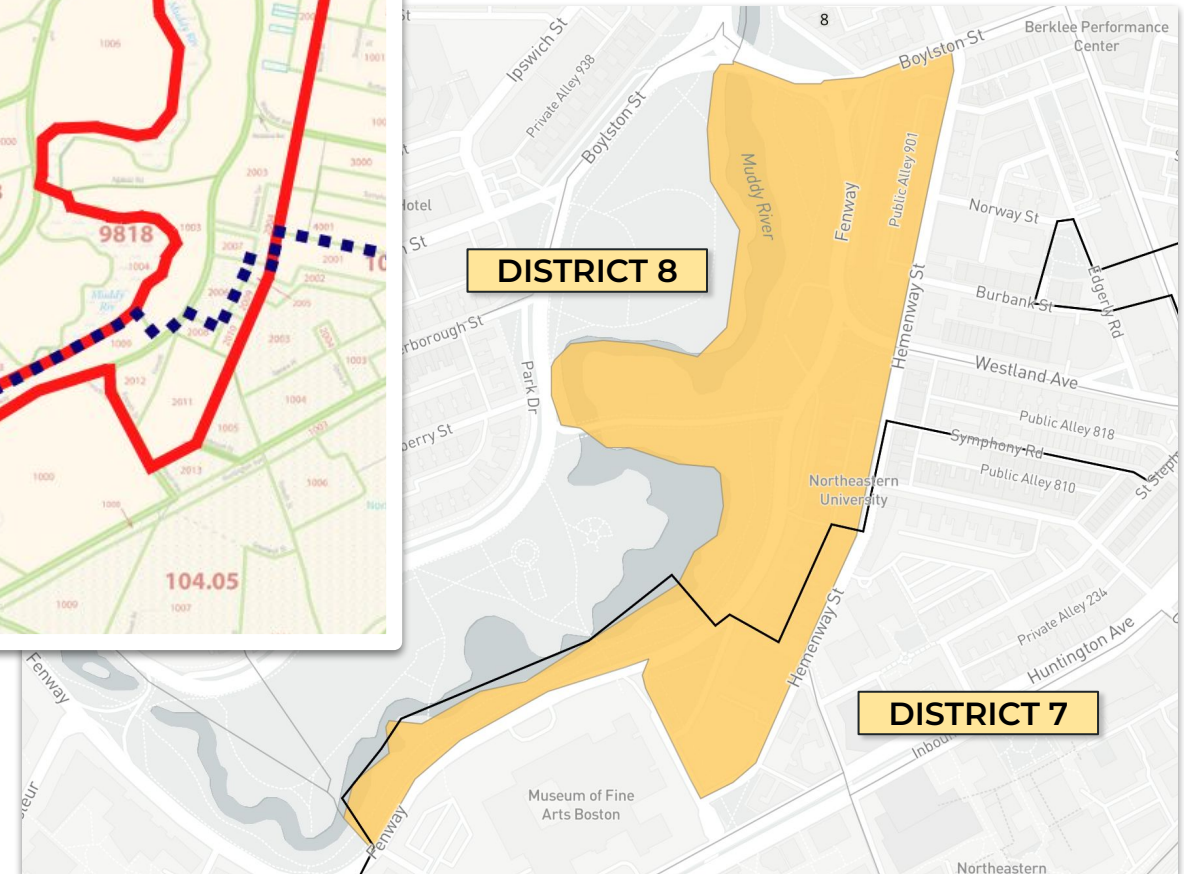


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 4

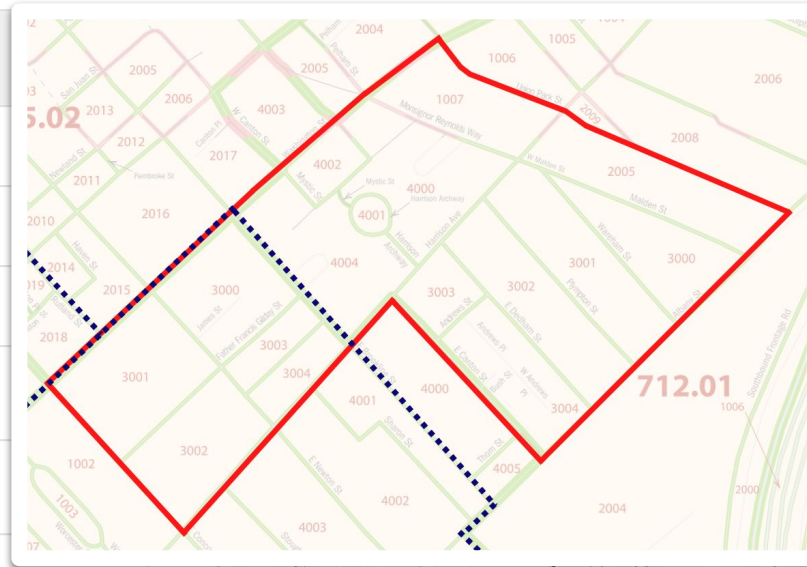


Ward 4, Precinct 12

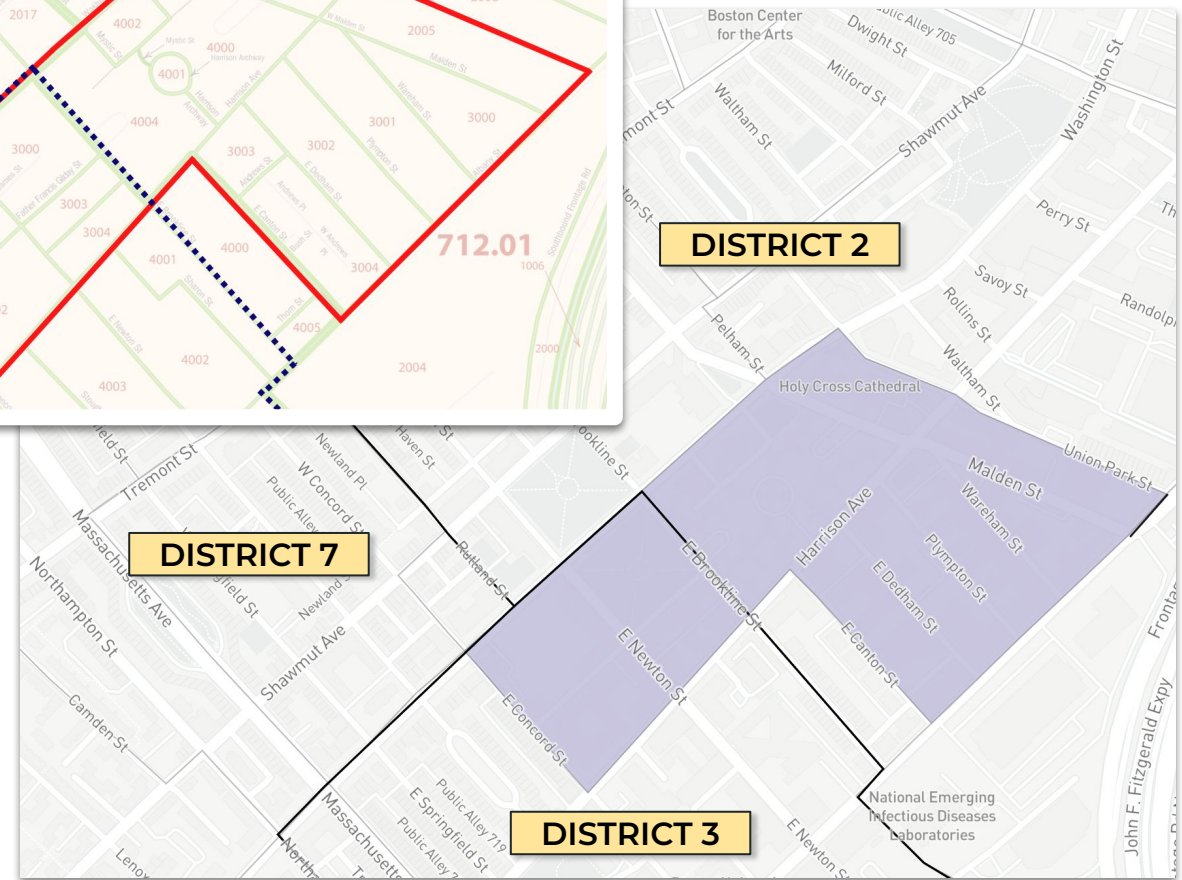
Previous Precincts	7, 9
Current Districts	7, 8
Census blocks	17 – 7 in D7, 10 in D8
Total Population	2,215 51% White; 10% Black; 12% Hispanic; 20% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	2,139 52% White; 10% Black; 11% Hispanic; 20% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	623
Polling Location	Museum of Fine Arts
Neighborhood	Fenway
COIs	
Reference Points	Boston Conservatory, Emerald Necklace, Forsyth Park, Muddy River, NEU Fenway
Boundaries	Boylston St., Hemenway St., Forsyth Way, Fenway



SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 8



<i>Ward 8, Precinct 1</i>	
Previous Precincts	1, 2
Current Districts	2, 3
Census blocks	16 – 5 in D3, 11 in D2
Total Population	2,687 35% White; 17% Black; 27% Hispanic; 17% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	2,288 37% White; 16% Black; 23% Hispanic; 20% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	1,826
Polling Location	Cathedral High School Gymnasium
Neighborhood	South End
COIs	BHA Cathedral/Ruth Barkley Apts, Franklin Square Apts, St. Helena's House, adjacent to Villa Victoria
Reference Points	Franklin Square (adjacent to Blackstone Stone), Cathedral of the Holy Cross
Boundaries	Washington St., Union Park St., Albany St., E. Canton St., Harrison Ave., E. Concord St.

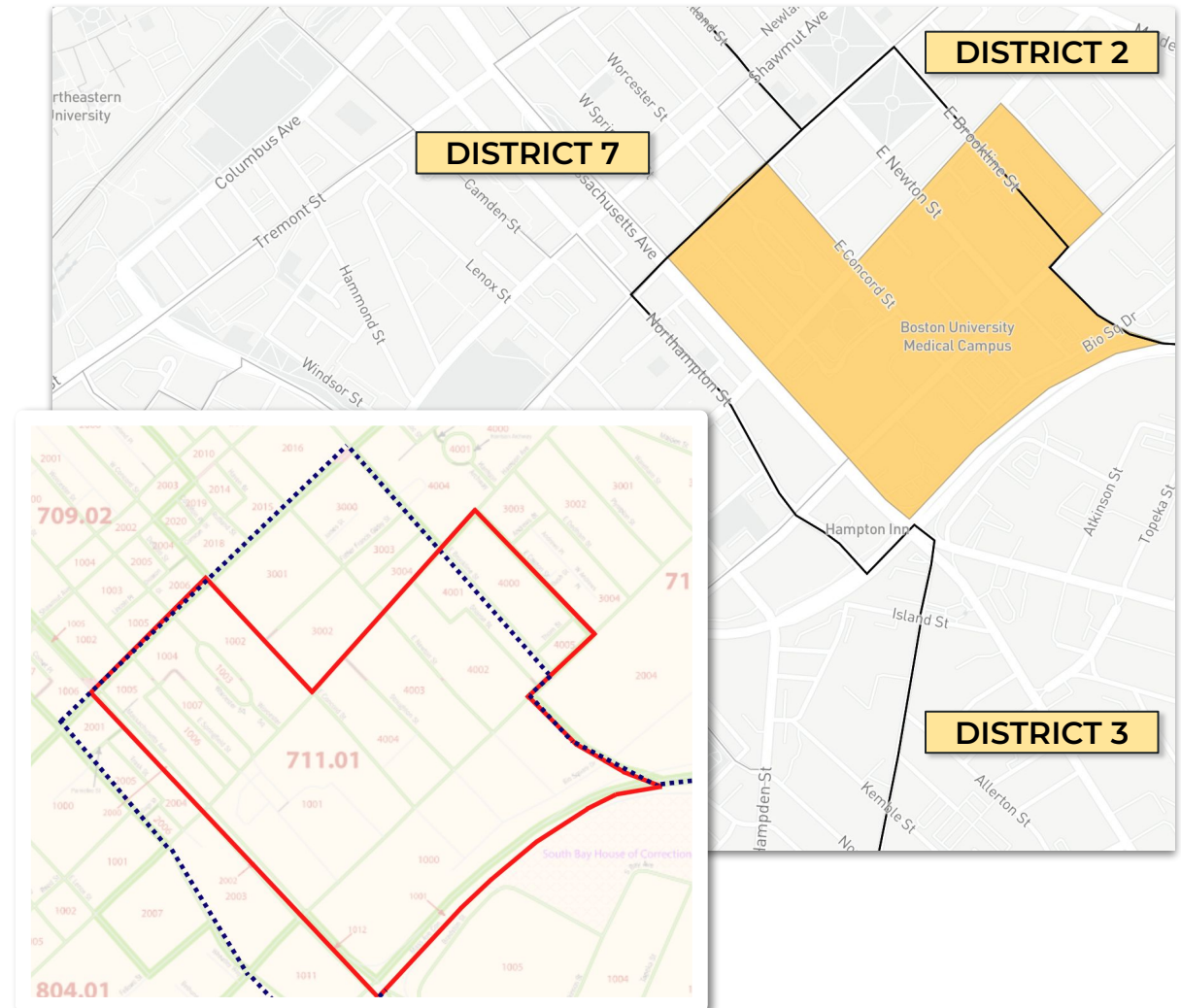


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 8



Ward 8, Precinct 2

Previous Precincts	1, 2
Current Districts	2, 3
Census blocks	14 – 2 in D2, 12 in D3
Total Population	2,199 60% White; 12% Black; 11% Hispanic; 12% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	1,977 62% White; 11% Black; 10% Hispanic; 12% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	1,993
Polling Location	Cathedral High School Gymnasium
Neighborhood	South End
COIs	
Reference Points	Boston Medical Center, BU Medical Campus, Worcester Square
Boundaries	Harrison Ave., E. Canton St., Albany St., Mass Ave., Washington St., E. Concord St.

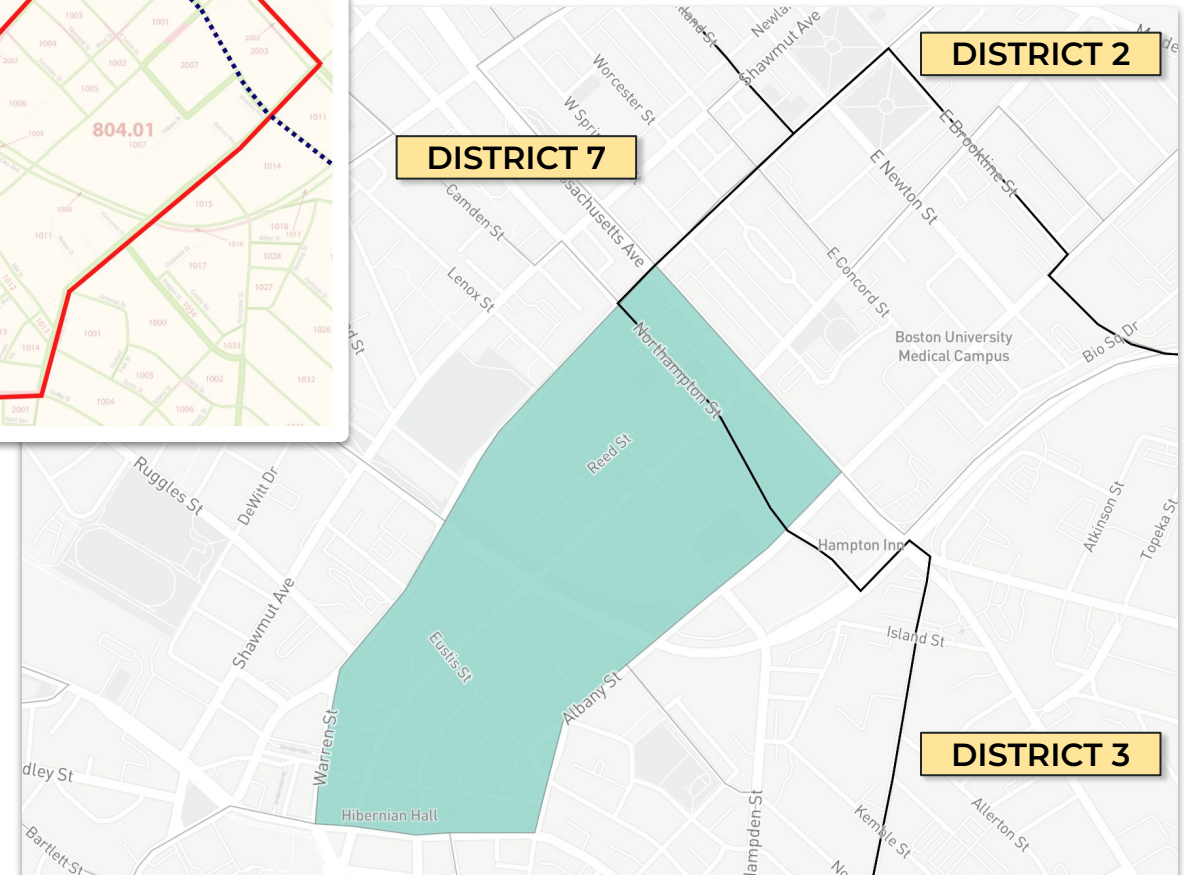
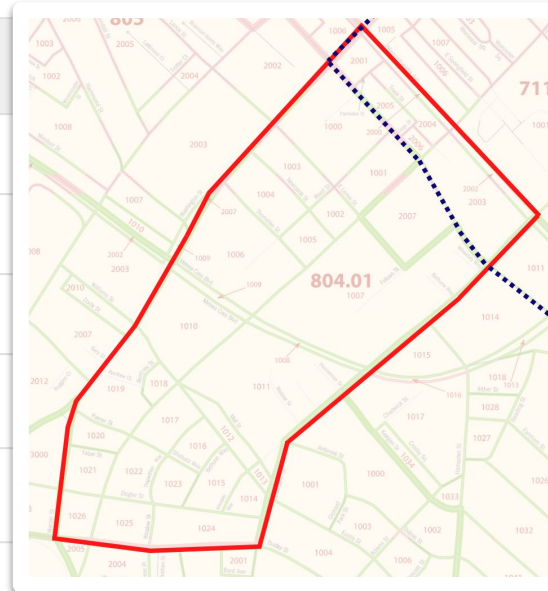


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 8



Ward 8, Precinct 4

Previous Precincts	2, 3, 4
Current Districts	3, 7
Census blocks	35 – 7 in D3, 28 in D7
Total Population	2,826 18% White; 32% Black; 30% Hispanic; 13% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	2,420 20% White; 31% Black; 28% Hispanic; 15% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	1,723
Polling Location	Orchard Gardens Community Center
Neighborhood	Roxbury
COIs	Orchard Gardens
Reference Points	Hibernian Hall (adj. Nubian Station, Dearborn School)
Boundaries	Warren St., Washington St., Mass Ave., Albany St., Dearborn St., Dudley St.

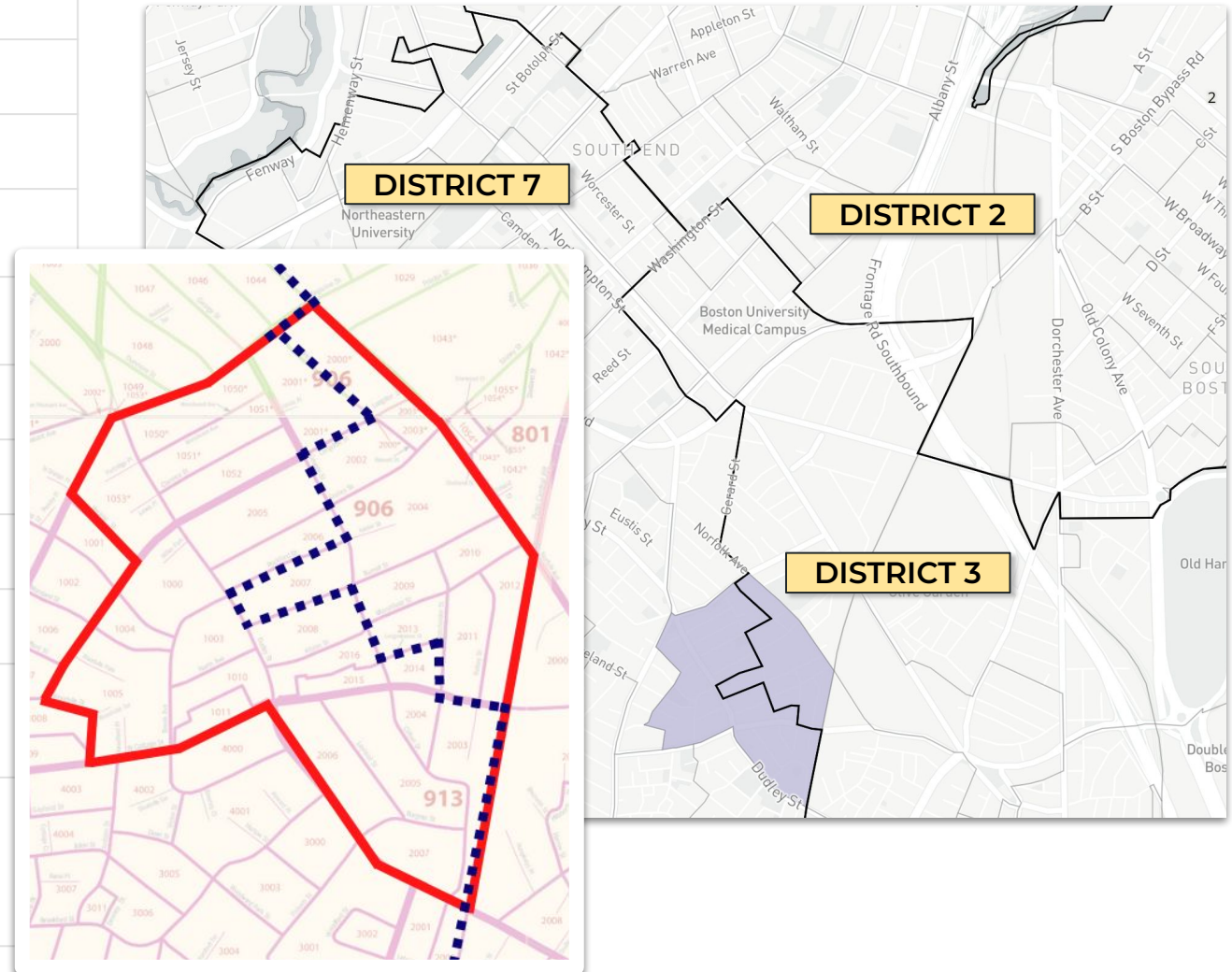


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 8



Ward 8, Precinct 5

Previous Precincts	5, 6
Current Districts	3, 7
Census blocks	32 – 10 in D3, 22 in D7
Total Population	3,091 7% White; 28% Black; 22% Hispanic; 2% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	2,361 7% White; 29% Black; 20% Hispanic; 2% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	1,893
Polling Location	Salvation Army Kroc Center
Neighborhood	Roxbury
COIs	
Reference Points	Mason School, Kroc Center, Shirley-Eustis House
Boundaries	Magazine St., Norfolk Ave., MBTA rail line, Dudley St., W. Cottage St., Woodville St., Dennis St., Huckins St., Blue Hill Ave.

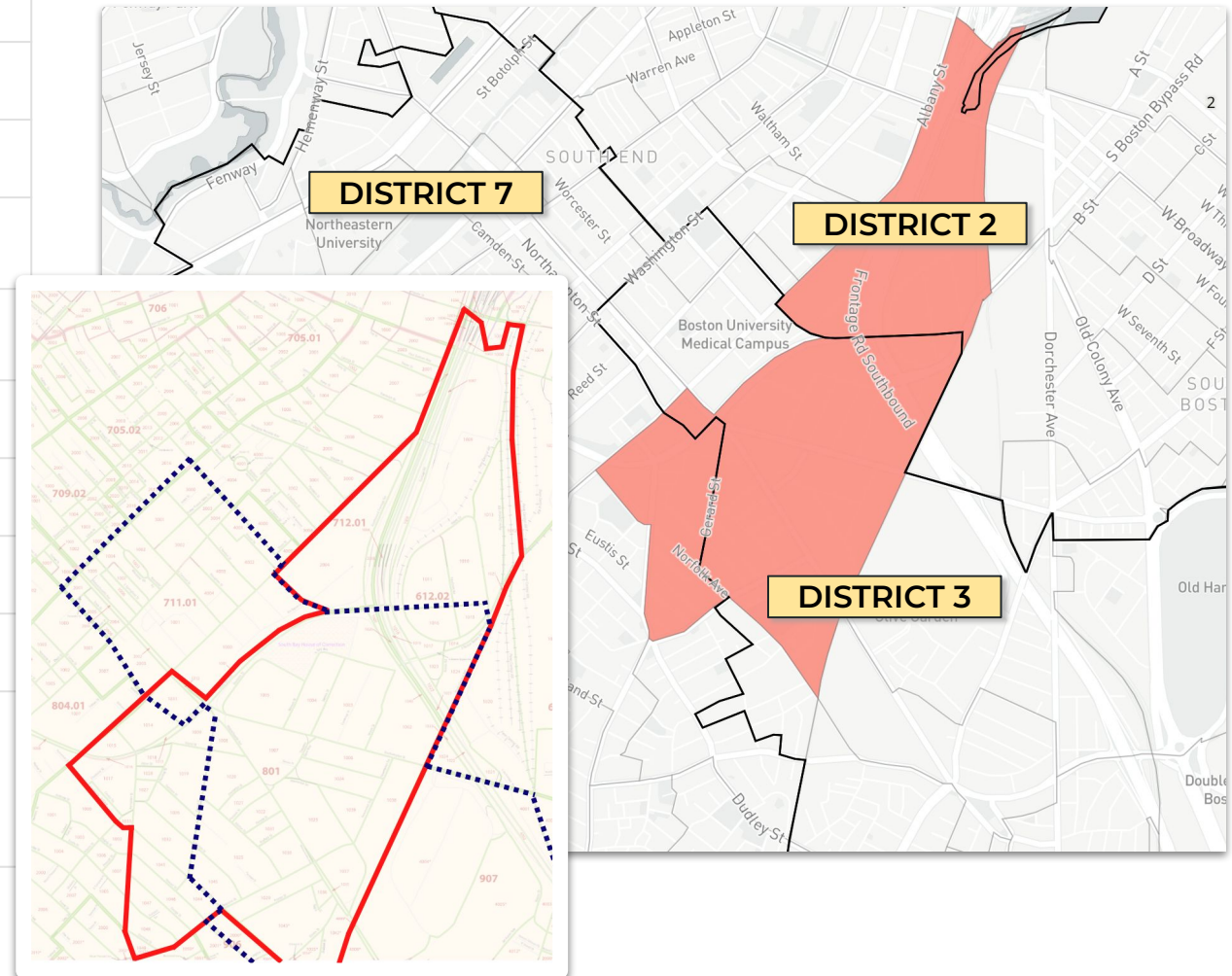


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 8



Ward 8, Precinct 6

Previous Precincts	1, 2, 3, 6, 7
Current Districts	2, 3, 7
Census blocks	90 – ~25 in D2, ~45 in D3, ~20 in D7
Total Population	1,700 33% White; 28% Black; 29% Hispanic; 2% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	1,574 35% White; 29% Black; 28% Hispanic; 1% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	1,230
Polling Location	Orchard Gardens Community Center
Neighborhood	Roxbury/South Bay
COIs	Orchard Gardens
Reference Points	City Tow Lot, PWD Yard, Widett Circle, Newmarket Square (adj. South Bay), Suffolk Co. House of Corrections, Clifford Park, St. Patrick's Church,
Boundaries	Albany St., MBTA rail line, Norfolk Ave., Magazine St., Hampden St., Keegan St., Mass. Ave.

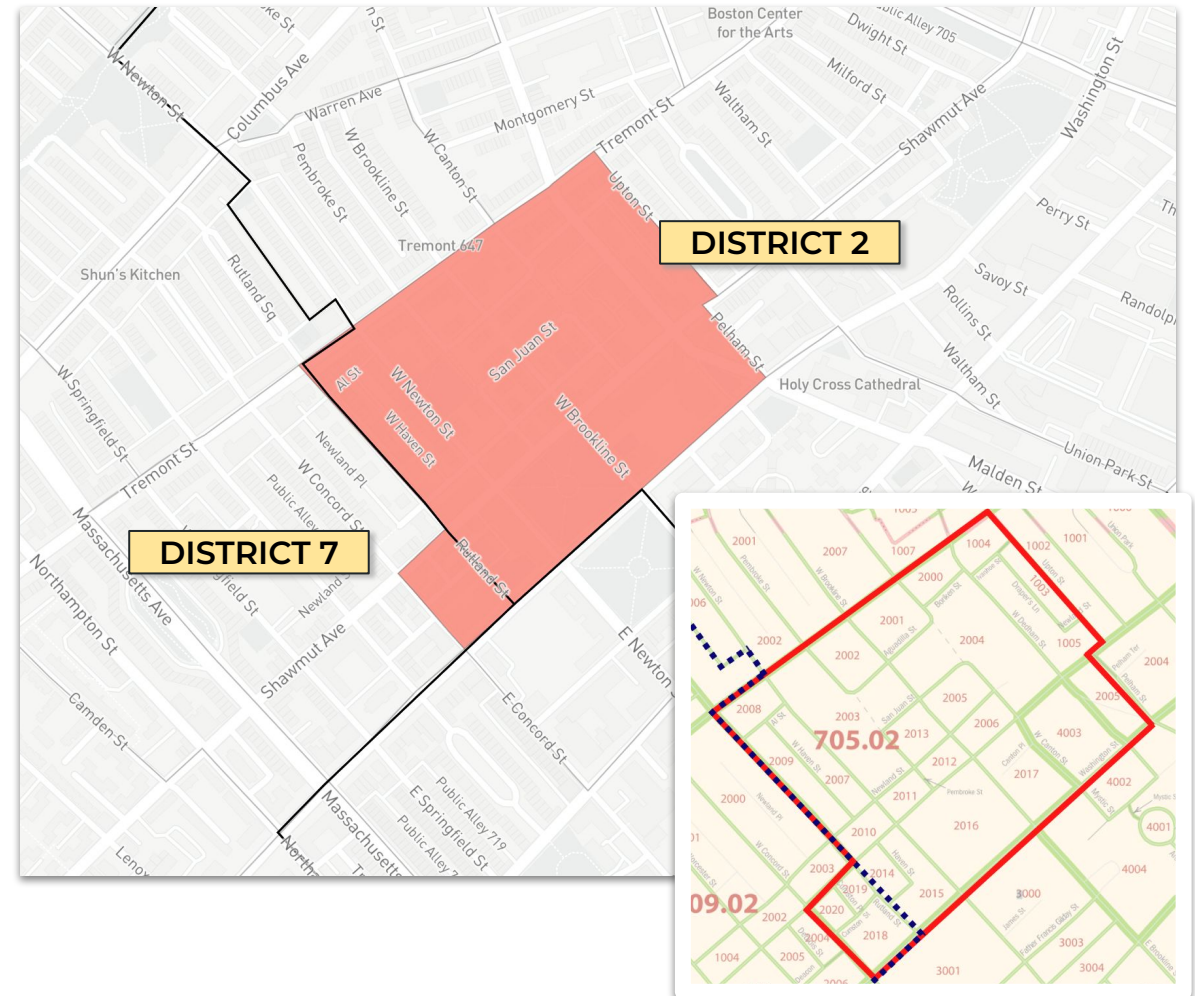


SPLIT PRECINCTS IN WARD 9



Ward 9, Precinct 1

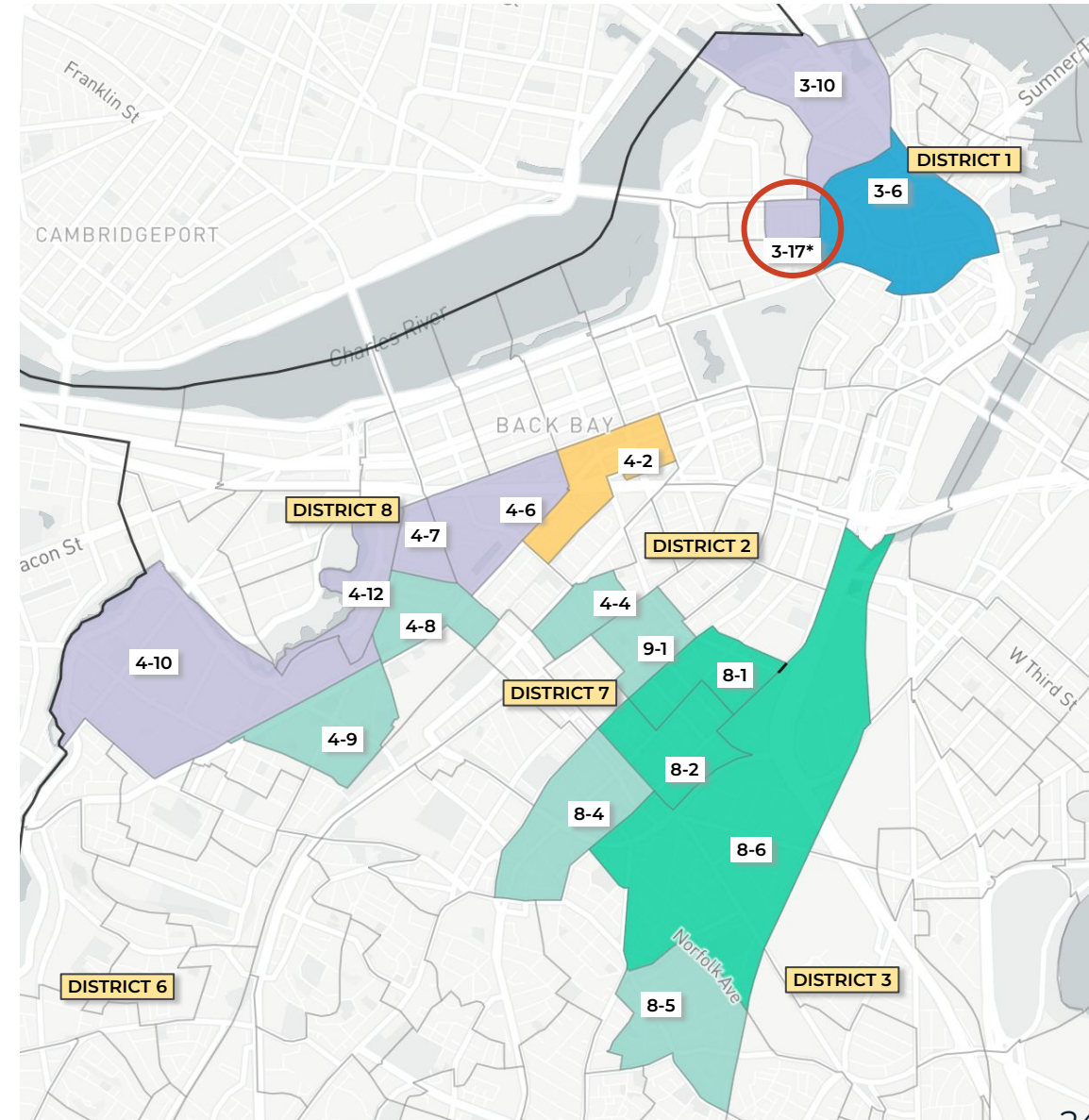
Previous Precincts	1, 2
Current Districts	2, 7
Census blocks	26 – 23 in D2, 3 in D7
Total Population	2,698 34% White; 9% Black; 31% Hispanic; 22% Asian
Voting Age (18+)	2,295 37% White; 9% Black; 28% Hispanic; 23% Asian
Reg. Voters (5/22)	2,211
Polling Location	Youth Development Program
Neighborhood	South End
COIs	BHA W. Newton St, BHA Torre Unidad, Villa Victoria (Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción), adjacent to BHA Cathedral/Ruth Barkley
Reference Points	Blackstone Square (adjacent to Franklin Square), Blackstone School
Boundaries	Tremont St., Upton St., Pelham St., Washington St., W. Concord St., Shawmut Ave., Rutland St.



SPLIT PRECINCTS RECONCILED TO “BASELINE” DISTRICTS



W-P	“Baseline” District Assigned	2012-2022 Districts (Split pct.)	Neighborhood	Pop.	White	Black	Hisp.	Asian
3-6 *	1*	1, 2	Downtown	1,844	70%	6%	9%	11%
3-10	8	1, 2, 8	West End	3,284	65%	5%	9%	15%
4-2	2	2, 7	Back Bay	1,964	67%	6%	9%	13%
4-4	7	2, 7	South End	2,360	64%	15%	9%	7%
4-6	8	2, 7	Back Bay	3,390	65%	5%	8%	18%
4-7	8	2, 7, 8	Fenway/Symp.	3,179	49%	8%	10%	27%
4-8	7	7, 8	Fenway/Symp.	5,832	54%	7%	10%	24%
4-9	7	7, 8	Mission Hill	4,863	58%	11%	13%	11%
4-10	8	7, 8	LMA/Fenway	6,094	65%	7%	9%	16%
4-12	8	7, 8	Fenway	2,215	51%	10%	12%	20%
8-1	3	2, 3	South End	2,687	35%	17%	27%	17%
8-2	3	2, 3	South End	2,199	60%	12%	11%	12%
8-4	7	3, 7	Roxbury	2,826	18%	32%	30%	13%
8-5	7	3, 7	Roxbury	3,091	7%	28%	22%	2%
8-6	3	2, 3, 7	Rox./S. Bay	1,700	33%	28%	29%	2%
9-1	7	2, 7	South End	2,698	34%	9%	31%	22%

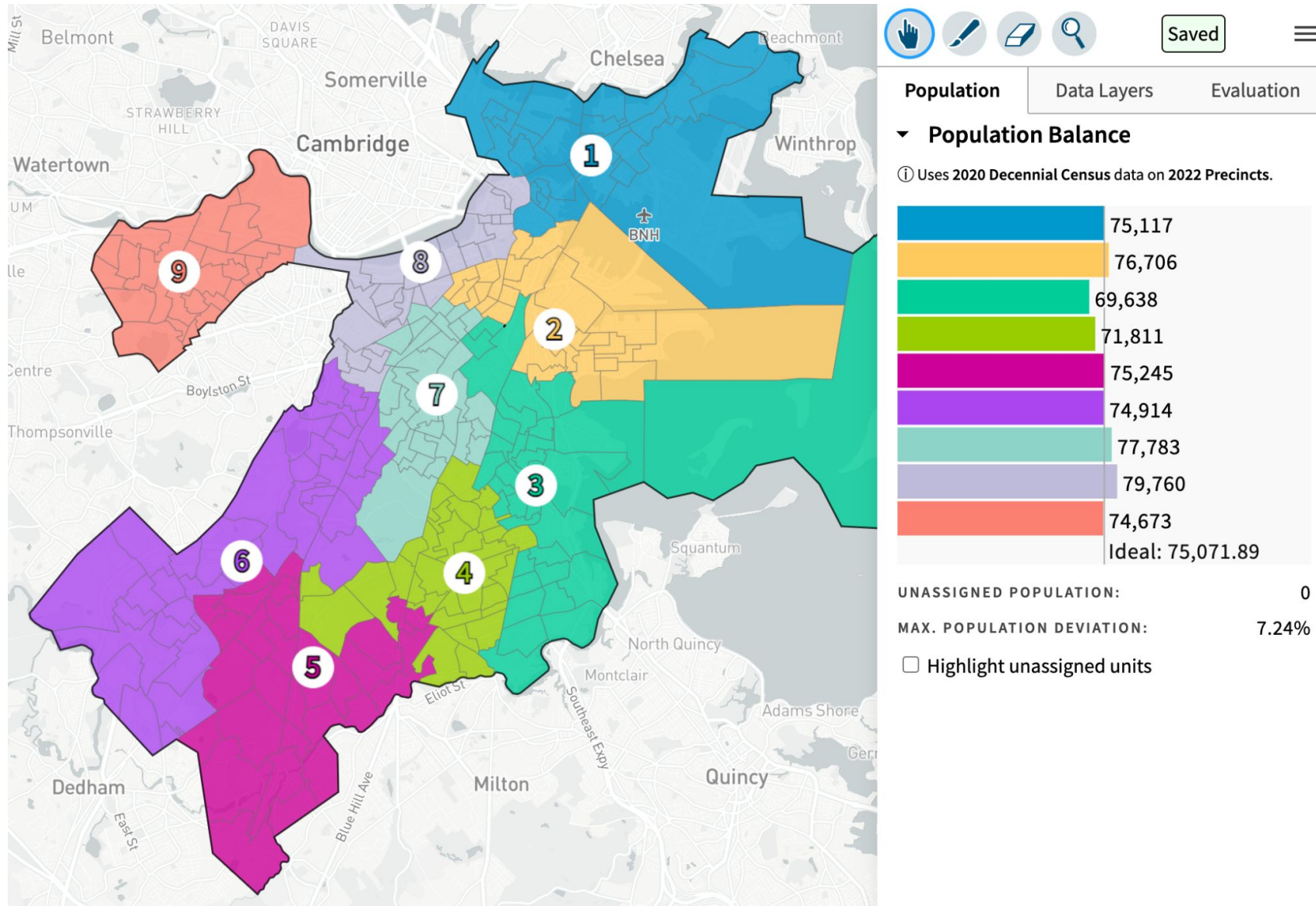


* As a result of assigning the split precinct 3-6* to District 1, the Council reached consensus that the adjacent precinct 3-17 in Beacon Hill be shifted to District 8 for neighborhood cohesion and to keep District 2 contiguous.

SPLIT PRECINCTS RECONCILED TO "BASELINE" DISTRICTS



<https://districtr.org/plan/141671>





Tentative only – Final schedule subject to revision. Please check boston.gov/redistricting for updates.

Prior to filing Redistricting Committee Proposed Map

- *Friday, September 23, 12:00 PM – Virtual working session*
- *TBD: Monday, September 26 or Tuesday, September 27*
 - *Working session, Piemonte Room*
- *Thursday, September 29, 3:00 PM – Public hearing, Iannella Chamber*
- *Friday, September 30, 10:00 AM – Working session, Piemonte Room*

Committee Chair files Proposed Map week of October 3

- *October 10-25 – Public Committee events 7 days after filing proposal*
 - *Public hearings, Committee meetings, and working sessions*
 - *Disseminate information to neighborhood and civic associations, community organizations, residents across City*
 - *Solicit testimony, feedback, comments*
- *October 26 – Potential date for Council action*
- *November 2 – Potential date for Council action*
- *November 7 – One year prior to November 7, 2023 Municipal Election*